

Hafa Adai!

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POLL RESULTS

True or false: How incumbent lawmakers will vote on the articles of impeachment against Gov. Fitial will influence my vote this November.

Yes	148
No	48

Sunday, October 21, 2012

INSIDE

LOCAL



The 27th Japanese Autumn Festival on Saipan again draws a crowd.

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ASIA



A U.S. aircraft carrier group cruises through the disputed South China Sea.

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LIFE & STYLE



Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel get married in Italy.

► PAGE 21

Nearly 100 Zumba fans work up a sweat for Dora. **PAGE 6**
Saipan Call-a-Ride suspended. **PAGE 7**

Probe on \$190.8M power deal, Buckingham escort to press on

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Despite the defeat of an impeachment resolution against Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, the chairmen of House and Senate committees said yesterday that they will continue their review of the sole-source \$190.8-million power purchase agreement and the use of law enforcement officials and government resources to allegedly shield former attorney general Edward Buckingham from being served a penal summons, among other things.

» **Impeachment panel's evidence gathered at hearings may be forwarded to feds**

Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan), chairman of the House Committee on Judiciary and Governmental Operations, said his panel is still investigating the 25-year power purchase agreement that

the governor and Buckingham signed on Aug. 3 and would call in officials from agencies that could further shed light on the \$190.8 million deal.

"Nothing stops us from continuing to investigate this," Demapan told

See PROBE on Page 4

Study finds \$11.4M unpaid CHC reimbursement

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The financially challenged Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. could boost its revenue if it aggressively pushes for the collection of unpaid reimbursements owed the hospital,

according to an analysis conducted by HealthTech.

In a 13-page summary of recom-
See STUDY on Page 4

RELATED NEWS
► Cost to correct immediate jeopardy status at over \$600K.
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Protest rally 'just tip of iceberg'

People from all walks of life take part in an anti-corruption rally by the Microl intersection in San Jose yesterday, barely two weeks before the Nov. 6 midterm elections and days after a resolution impeaching the governor for 16 allegations of corruption, neglect of duty and felony got only nine votes in the House of Representatives. Inset, motorists honk their horns as they pass by anti-corruption rally participants holding posters and banners by the Microl intersection in San Jose yesterday.

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

While a resolution to impeach Gov. Benigno R. Fitial failing to pass the House of Representatives on Oct. 17, voters and other community members took to the street to take a strong stand against corruption in a rally at the Microl intersection in San Jose yesterday.

Protesters held up placards and banners that read "Stand up against corruption," "End corruption," "Say no to corruption." Voters against corrup-

tion," "Impeach Fitial," "I plead Fifth Amendment. I'm scared," and "Honk to prevent abuse of power."

JP Attao, a Kagman resident, said that yesterday's anti-corruption rally "is just the tip of the iceberg for the coming election," holding up a placard that reads, "Stop corruption on Nov. 6."

The rally came days after the defeat of the historic impeachment resolution and two weeks before the Nov. 6 midterm elections.

"Corruption knows no race. It affects everyone in the CNMI—Chamorro,

Refaluwasch and others. If the majority of the House of Representatives didn't want to see evidence of corruption, the public would be the one to see them and decide what to do with them," Attao told *Saipan Tribune*.

Motorists honked their horns as they passed by the rally that started at 10am and ended at 12:30pm.

Among the issues that ralliers were upset about included a sole-source \$190.8 million power pur-

See PROTEST on Page 4



Local

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Cost to correct CHC immediate jeopardy status at over \$600K

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@yahoo.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. CEO Juan N. Babauta said the organization has already spent \$600,000 to correct the immediate jeopardy citations slapped by the federal government on the Commonwealth Health Center.

Babauta reported to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial on Tuesday that this amount needed to rectify the identified deficiencies at the

public hospital is only at the minimum.

"This has been the biggest challenge ever faced by [the corporation] so far. However, the team that worked so hard in addressing these deficiencies is pleased to inform you that nearly all have been addressed except for the procurement of a new CT scan in Radiology. It is estimated that the cost associated in correcting all three immediate jeopardy citations have cost the corporation in excess of \$600,000 thus far and mounting," stated Babauta in his report to the governor.

A Center of Medicare and Medicaid Services team did a survey visit at the hospital early last month. That resulted in the corporation being slapped with immediate jeopardy status for the following deficiencies: (1) lack of defibrillators in critical units of the hospital; (2) deficiencies in critical supplies in the laboratory unit, lack of specimen testing, tracking and accountability; (3) a malfunctioning CT scan and a broken portable x-ray unit.

"When the immediate jeopardy citations were issued within days of each other, [the corporation] was required to put in place an immediate 'Plan of Corrections' and to be completed within 24 days from the date each citation was issued. Key administrative staff at CHC, including the board chairman [Joaquin Torres] worked day and night to address all three of the citations," Babauta said.

Babauta provided the governor with details of the correction action plan that was submitted to the CMMS.

According to Babauta, the corporation expects to hear from CMMS in the next two weeks on the status of the citations.

Just days after the CMMS citations, the corporation bought four new defibrillators for the operating room, emergency room, intensive care unit, and surgery department.

At present, Babauta said, the corporation is working with a vendor, Oka Services Inc., for the purchase of a new CT scan and had approved some \$300,000 for the new unit to be paid on an installment basis.

CHCC, according to the CEO, will continue to provide other evidence of completion or steps taken to correct any issues such as certification of equipment being repaired or replaced and development of policies and procedures for tracking, training, and accounting for all equipment in radiology and dietary units (dishwasher, garbage disposal, etc.), the purchase of a fluoroscope, which provide for real time imaging during surgery, chiller, walk-in freezer, the nonfunctioning elevators, and the like.

The immediate jeopardy indicates that the provider's non-compliance with one or more requirements of participation in the Medicare and Medicaid program has or is "likely to cause serious injury, harm, impairment or death."



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Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early.
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Scholarship administrator quits post; hired as NMC director

Just barely over a year after taking over the helm of the CNMI Scholarship Office, Jackie P. Che quit her post to move to another government department, this time as director for the islands' lone community college.

Che was hired as director of

the Northern Marianas College's Office of Institutional Effectiveness, replacing former director Galvin Deleon Guerrero who is now president of the Mount Carmel School.

The Office of Institutional Effectiveness develops and over-

sees a comprehensive program of evaluation and feedback to enhance the effectiveness of NMC's programs and services.

Che is a former Mount Carmel High School student. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of San Di-

9th Annual Sengebau Competition tomorrow

The 2012 Valentine N. Sengebau Poetry Competition will be held at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Theater tomorrow, Oct. 23, at 6pm.

Admission is free and open to the public. Cash prizes totaling \$1,000 will be awarded to the top six poets.

This annual event was established by the Northern Marianas Humanities Council to support the work of young poets on the islands and to honor the legacy of Micronesia's foremost poet, the late Valentine N. Sengebau.

In the junior division, students will be reciting poetry from *Microchild*, an anthology of Sengebau's poetry and a publication of the Council's Micronesian Authors Initiative.

In the senior division, students will be reciting original poetry with themes relating to culture, change, and/or identity in the Northern Marianas.

Junior division competitors will be scored on the quality of their recital while seniors will be judged on both content and recital quality.

First place finishers in each division will have their names inscribed on perpetual trophies that will be kept by their respective schools until next year's competition. First through third places in each division will also win cash prizes.

This competition is one of several Council programs in October to celebrate CNMI Humanities Month.

For more information about this event, contact council staff at 235-4785 or visit www.nmi-humanities.org. (PR)

ego in 2009. She later graduated with a master's degree in higher educational leadership from the University of San Diego's School of Leadership and Education Sciences, where she also received the "Woman of Impact Award" and the "Excellence in Service and Leadership Award."

Prior to joining NMC, Che worked as administrator of the CNMI Scholarship Office.

Che also worked in the Student Affairs Department at the University of San Diego and organized and co-directed the annual program review report for Graduate Student Life.

At the University of San Di-

ego, she also helped create an assessment model for the Student Affairs Graduate Division.

NMC president Sharon Y. Hart, Ph.D., said: "We are extremely pleased to welcome Jackie to the NMC family. Her educational background and professional experience in data

assessment are vital to the effective implementation of the college's program review processes," said Hart.

Che said she looks forward to her new job. "I look forward to working with a dynamic team at NMC to facilitate program review, assessment, and data collection and to enhance the college's institutional research and strategic planning operations," she said. (*Moneth G. Deposa*)

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Sources: DPS rehires convicted ex-firefighter

The Department of Public Safety has hired back a former firefighter who was convicted in 2010 of stealing a boat engine from the Northern Islands Mayor's Office.

Sources disclosed over the weekend that DPS rehired former firefighter Combiniano Taisakan and assigned him in administration and logistics.

Sources said Taisakan started his employment at DPS several weeks ago.

STUDY

From Page 1

mendations submitted to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, the HealthTech analysis affirmed that the CNMI's healthcare system poses an immediate threat to people due to multiple deficiencies and shortcomings. It submitted several recommendations that need action plans within 30 days.

Among these "immediate recommendations" is in the area of revenue cycle, where it disclosed \$11.4 million in unpaid reimbursements to CHC could immediately increase the hospital's income.

"To increase reimbursement within 30 days, focus on unpaid Medicare claims [amounting to \$8,398,551]. Assign a couple of best Medicare billers to work the return-to-provider area in the Medicare online system. Contact the Medicare Intermediary to obtain assistance with resolution of unpaid claims," states part of the analysis.

PROBE

From Page 1

Saipan Tribune

Demapan said the evidence and records that the Special Committee on Impeachment have already acquired related to the PPA would not be requested again.

"If anything, we will do follow up inquiry and don't need to duplicate the work that's already done by the impeachment committee," he said.

In August, House Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan) asked Demapan's JGO Committee and the Committee on Public Utilities, Transportation and Communications to jointly probe the PPA.

Cabrera wanted the joint probe to determine, among other things, whether the PPA constitutes public indebtedness and requires the Legislature's approval.

The JGO and PUTC Committees held off their oversight hearings on the PPA to give way to the fiscal year 2013 budget process toward the end of September and the hearings conducted by the impeachment panel.

The power deal with Saipan Development LLC, which involves the development of a 50-megawatt diesel power engine, was among the issues covered by the 16 articles of impeachment against the governor.

Rep. Stanley Torres (Ind-Saipan), chairman of the PUTC Committee, said last night he won't comment on the joint investigation until he talks to the JGO Committee chair.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), chairman of the Senate Committee on Executive Appointments and Government Investigations, separately said yesterday that his panel continues to gather information about the use of law enforcement personnel to allegedly prevent a former attorney general from

Many officers, sources said, are wondering why the department hired another ex-convict.

Acting DPS commissioner Aniceto Ogumoro had yet to reply for comment as of press time.

In March 2010, a Superior Court jury found Taisakan guilty of theft by unlawful taking and removal of a government property. The jurors, however, found him not guilty of theft by deception.

The corporation should also focus on unpaid Aetna claims amounting to \$2,970,947.70 million and recommended assigning a couple of Aetna billers to resolve errors that are preventing the claims from being paid. Aetna is an insurance carrier.

In combining these two unpaid claims for CHC, the hospital can potentially collect \$11.369 million within 30 days.

The analysis also recommended getting more personnel from other positions to help in the hospital's billing area so that billing productivity is not compromised.

It also suggested evaluating current roles and responsibilities of employees and reorganizing the staff to put workers in positions that are currently vacant and in backlog areas that need help.

"Reallocate additional resources into the payment posting area so backlog can be resolved. Ensure that the most current dates of service are coded and billed timely. Divide the coders and billers so that one group works on the most current claims and the other group

being served a penal summons.

He said the Department of Public Safety and the Commonwealth Ports Authority have not submitted any written report to his committee detailing any formal investigation, if any, that their departments conducted regarding the so-called Buckingham escort.

Because of this, Cruz said he wrote to acting attorney general Viola Alepuyo, asking for an Office of the Attorney General investigation into the matter.

Among other things, the requested investigation would answer lingering questions whether government resources such as law enforcement personnel, vehicles, and time were used to prevent the serving of a penal summons on the former attorney general and whether law enforcement personnel violated the laws when they shielded the AG from being served the penal summons.

During the impeachment hearings the past few weeks, the House Special Committee on Impeachment received testimony from DPS and Office of the Public Auditor personnel pointing to DPS deputy commissioner Ambrosio Ogumoro as giving the order for police officers to stop assisting OPA investigators from serving the penal summons on Buckingham and threatening to arrest OPA investigators if they continue to serve the penal summons.

Deleon Guerrero said yesterday that the evidence that the Impeachment Committee gathered, except for those covered by non-disclosure laws, are now the property of the Legislative Bureau and could be made available to anyone requesting it under the Open Government Act.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) and Deleon Guerrero said that even federal agencies could review the evidence, including sworn testimony from different agencies, for use for their own investigation, for example.

Associate judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Taisakan to three days in prison and placed him on supervised probation. Wiseman barred Taisakan from being employed by or having a contract with the CNMI government for the duration of his probation.

The Office of the Attorney General's White Collar Crimes/Public Corruption Task Force conducted the investigation.

According to Juan Santos, then investigator of the OAG's White Collar Crimes/Public Corruption Task Force,

works on 2011 claims," the study recommends.

Besides the unpaid reimbursements from Medicare and Aetna, the corporation also has huge collectibles from patients whose billings were delayed for many years.

The Office of the Governor commissioned the study on the public hospital using federal grants.

'Eliminate posts; reduce OT'

HealthTech also proposes to eliminate or consolidate many positions. Among the position suggested for elimination is that of director of hospital services.

The study proposes to combine nurse manager positions in many departments and eliminate the position of chief of general support and transfer the responsibilities to the facility maintenance administrator.

In eliminating those positions, the savings can be used to fill or add important positions, mostly on the clinical sides.

It also recommends at least 5 percent reduction in overtime costs of personnel.

The same evidence were not reviewed by the full House before voting on the impeachment resolution on Oct. 17, to the disappointment of the panel. The impeachment resolution got only nine "yes" votes, short of the 14 votes needed to impeach the governor. The House leadership that thumbed down the resolution is aligned with the governor.

Deleon Guerrero said the governor's hand in the "escape" of a federal inmate to give the governor a massage in the wee hours of the morning in his private residence violated the agreement between the CNMI government and the federal government on the use of the prison in Susupe.

But he said the matter that has the most adverse impact on the CNMI is the \$190.8 million PPA that ratepayers have to bear for 25 years and at a rate higher than what they are paying now.

Deleon Guerrero said any future body could also use the evidence to introduce another impeachment resolution.

Glen Hunter, a concerned citizen, said he hopes that U.S. Attorney Alicia Limtiaco would look at the evidence that the impeachment panel gathered and take appropriate actions.

"I'm hoping that she [Limtiaco] seriously looks at the evidence that came out and she starts to take this seriously... Peoples' lives are at risk not only at CHC, not only with high cost of power, corruption and now future indebtedness to the Commonwealth but the division they are trying to create, and the hatred they're trying to create is putting peoples' lives at risk because we can't count on law enforcement to be there for us, and we can't count on the people in authority to protect citizens anymore and that's a serious problem that needs to be resolved. Are we going to wait until someone dies, I don't know, I hope we don't," Hunter said.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) and Deleon Guerrero said that even federal agencies could review the evidence, including sworn testimony from different agencies, for use for their own investigation, for example.

Taisakan sold the boat engine to another firefighter and his wife, for \$300 between June 6 and August 2007.



The couple made two separate payments to Taisakan totaling \$140, Santos said. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday Michelle Hamilton! May you be blessed on this special day and may you have many more birthdays to come. We love you. Greetings come from Dora, Juan, Juan Jr., and Dexter.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PROTEST

From Page 1

chase agreement, a write-off of some \$24 million in taxes, the use of law enforcement officers and government resources to break the law, and a no-bid \$392,406 ARRA management contract award.

Sylvan Rangamar, a retired police officer, said he still has lots of friends at the Department of Public Safety "and I know how they feel. They are being silenced in there."

"I've done escorts for dignitaries, for VIPs when I was a police officer but I never escorted a felon or anyone trying to flee when there's a penal summons being served. That's not right. I won't vote for the 'Ben 10'. You can bet on it," Rangamar said, referring to the 10 House members who voted "no" to the impeachment resolution.

Armed law enforcement officers escorted former attorney general Edward Buckingham on his way out of the CNMI in August. It is alleged that they were there to shield him from being served a penal summons in connection with criminal charges against him.

Rangamar, who worked at DPS for 23 years, carried a placard that read, "A retired cop. And I, too, am not afraid of corrupt cops."

Analee Villagomez, of As Perdido, said she believes in "good leadership," which she said the current governor does not have. "The governor is corrupt. \$190 million should instead go to renewable energy," she added.

Jeff Race, an athlete, said "This is the most corrupt administration in CNMI history, starting from the lieutenant governor [Tim Villagomez] who is in prison, the governor's driver is in prison, and that was just the tip of the iceberg."

"There's a lot [of corruption], and I've had intimidation directed toward my family and myself," he said.

Race said he joined the rally "because I think we need to eliminate the fear that is being felt by people who are being intimidated by our government, and the corruption that we are seeing in so many levels. We need to stop it."

He said everybody in the CNMI needs to know the candidates who support corruption "and I'd be very surprised if any of those people make it back to the office because the overwhelming majority of people firmly believe that the governor deserves to be impeached."

Glen Hunter, one of the rally organizers, said he is happy with the crowd and the number of passing motorists that honked their horns in support of their cause.

"Ten people decided to turn a blind eye on corruption. And that just goes to show how deep-rooted corruption is. It's so deep that 10 people that make laws didn't care about reviewing whether those laws were broken or not by the highest elected officer of the

land, so that's a testament to how bad things are... The pleading of the Fifth [by] law enforcement officers, the layers and layers and layers of corruption are just building up that people cannot take it anymore," he said.

House minority leader Joe Deleon Guerrero, the main author of the impeachment resolution that the Fitial-aligned House leadership voted down on Oct. 17, said the motorists honking their horns reveal the sentiment of the many people that are against corruption.

Deleon Guerrero was among the lawmakers that joined the rally yesterday, along with Reps. Tony Sablan, Janet Maratita, Ray Tebuteb, and Ray Yumul.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP), who also joined the rally, said he was there as a citizen who opposes corruption at any level of the government.

"I oppose the secret \$190-million power purchase agreement that will cost us over \$2 billion over the life of the agreement. I oppose the writing off of some \$24 million of taxes owed by Tinian Dynasty. When a common citizen owes taxes, they cannot even get their rebates for prior years. But the government writes off a huge tax liability at a time when our people need so much help for public health, public safety, for education."

"I oppose the use of armed, uniformed officers to assist a former attorney general escape from the arm of the laws of the Northern Mariana Islands. This is wrong and it also gives our many law-abiding, hardworking men and women in blue a bad name," Sablan said.

He said people need to "take back" the islands.

"We need to get out of secret, back-room deals. We need to get out of the darkness and into the light. We need to stop corruption at every level," he added.

The Fitial administration has yet to respond to requests for comment as of last night.

John Paul Aglubat, 17, said he joined the rally because he believes it's about time people stand up against corruption.

Roger Hernandez said he and his family and friends would not vote for those who did not support a resolution to impeach the governor.

Joe Carlos, 20, from Palau, said he was at the rally because he believes corruption should be stopped.

Vince Cabrera, of Chalan Piao, said, "The governor needs to step down because it's pointless for the 18th Legislature to come in and work with him when he has closed-door agreements, he has no regard for the law, and most importantly, no regard to the CNMI people."

"I made myself clear to even my family that there's no doubt in my mind that I wouldn't support the 'Ben 10.' I did not coin the word 'politricks' for nothing," he added.

OPD wants to suppress statements of man facing sex abuse charges

The Office of Public Defender has moved to suppress the statements to police officers allegedly made by a 50-year-old landscaper who is facing charges of directing a 6-year-old girl to touch his privates.

Assistant public defender Benjamin K. Petersburg, counsel for Domingo Dy, said it appears that the suspect, a Filipino with limited ability to speak English, was jailed for nearly 10 hours before being interviewed.

Petersburg said that when Dy was interviewed at 9:30pm on March 22, 2012, the interview was not preceded by any Miranda warning.

The following day, March 23, at 5pm, the same detective returned to the Department of Corrections with a typewritten statement and told Dy to sign it, Petersburg said.

"Again, Mr. Dy was not presented with any Miranda warnings. After Mr. Dy signed the statement, a detective entered the office and presented Mr. Dy with a constitutional rights form containing Miranda warnings," he said.

Petersburg said that Dy was instructed to fill out the form by

initialing each right and that the form was backdated to March 22 at 9:30pm.

"Here, any waiver of Miranda rights after taking a statement through custodial interrogation does not cure the initial unwarned statements. For these reasons, any statements made by Mr. Dy must be suppressed," the lawyer said.

Petersburg noted that at the time of the interview at DOC, Dy told the detective that his ability to speak and understand English was limited.

Despite this, the lawyer said, no interpreter was used and no Miranda warnings were given in Tagalog.

He said at some point on March 23, a constitutional rights form was presented to Dy, but the defendant was unable to read it both because it was in English and that he wears reading glasses and the type of the form was too small for him to read.

Assistant attorney general Nicole Driscoll told the court, however, that Dy voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waived his rights and gave statements to the police, applying a totality of the circum-

stances analysis.

Driscoll said the two police officers at the crime scene did not arrest Dy but merely asked him to talk to about what happened the previous evening. As the interrogation was non-custodial, Miranda warnings were not required, Driscoll said.

The court is set to hear the motion today, Monday, at 9:30am.

Police said the incident happened when the girl told her mother that Dy made her touch his privates in the shower room.

Dy allegedly told police that he was only joking when he asked the girl to touch his privates and that the child actually never touched him. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

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IT&E
Life in Motion

Nearly 100 Zumba fans work up a sweat for Dora

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Dozens of fitness fanatics worked out a sweat Saturday evening for the "Dance for Zora" Zumbathon charity event, which organizers reckoned a success.

Nearly 100 dancers clocked up 1.5 hours worth of dancing at the Marianas High School Gymnasium, and these Zumba sessions were combined with rest periods to give way to the raffle draw, which handed out loads of prizes to lucky participants.

The event, organized by three licensed Zumba Fitness instructors, aimed to raise at least \$1,000, a meager amount in contrast to the \$25,000



CLARISSA V. DAVID
From left, Zumba fitness instructor Elitza Stoilova, Jennifer Camacho Ada, instructors Amy Sletten, and Jo-Ann Aquino pose for a group photo following the "Dance for Dora" Zumbathon charity event held Saturday at the Marianas High School Gymnasium.

needed to transfer 8-year-old Dora Grace Ada Camacho, who is paralyzed from the neck down, to a medical facility in South Carolina where she can receive the treatment she needs.

Amy Sletten, one of the instructors and Dora's former teacher at William S. Reyes Elementary School, said they were "nervous" because they didn't know what to expect for Saturday's crowd given the other events going on that night.

"I'm pleased with tonight's turnout. It actually ended up well. Everybody fit in the area and we're pleased with that," Sletten said after the Zumbathon.

She noted that many ticket buyers did not attend the event. "Out of the kindness of their hearts, they still donated that money and bought a ticket even if they couldn't make it because of previous engagements. That was awesome to see," she explained.

For the other two organizers, Elitza Stoilova and Jo-Ann Aquino, the Zumbathon showed the community's sup-

port not only through the attendees but also through the volunteers that helped set up the event and the many sponsors that donated raffle prizes.

Proceeds from the entrance fees and raffle tickets will go to Dora and her family. Organizers will continue to accept monetary donations until Tuesday, Oct. 23, before presenting the entire collections to their beneficiary.

Dora's mother, Jennifer Camacho Ada, said she was moved and overwhelmed by the community's support for her daughter.

"I'm thankful to everyone for making this event possible for Dora. Hopefully, we have enough to bring her to the States," she told *Saipan Tribune*.

Saturday's event was the second Zumbathon to be hosted on island, with the first one held last year to raise funds to help the relief efforts in Japan following the earthquake and tsunami on March 11, 2011.

To donate, call Sletten at 989-1560 or Stoilova at 989-3325.

Zoning board elects new officers

The Commonwealth Zoning board elected a new vice chair and secretary at a meeting held at its Dandan office last Thursday.

The board unanimously voted for Herman P. Sablan as vice chair and newly appointed Gus Kaipat as secretary.

Sablan was nominated by treasurer Alice S. Igitol, who joined the board meeting via teleconference.

He is replacing former vice chair Jose T. Limes, who left the board after filing for candidacy for next month's mid-

term election.

"Thank you to everyone for the vote of confidence and for your support," Sablan addressed the board. "I promise to do my best."

Meanwhile, Sablan nominated Kaipat for secretary, replacing Ed Arriola Jr. The board noted that Arriola is awaiting reappointment.

Besides Sablan and Kaipat, other board members are chair Diego C. Blanco, treasurer Alice S. Igitol, and newly appointed member Bruce Bateman. (Clarissa V. David)

\$100K cash bail for alleged robber

Superior Court Associate Judge David A. Wiseman has imposed a \$100,000 cash bail for the temporary release of Michael Jordan Cabrera, a habitual offender who allegedly robbed a female tourist in Garapan.

In a hearing last week, Wiseman prohibited the 23-year-old Cabrera from leaving Saipan and required him to surrender all travel documents.

Wiseman ordered Cabrera not to have any contact with the victim and her husband, both Chinese nationals, and the witness, a teenage bystander who was instrumental in the suspect's arrest.

Preliminary hearing will be on Oct. 23 at 1:30pm.

Police said the victim, a 26-year-old tourist, sustained a small bruise on the right shoulder caused by the strap of the purse, which the suspect ripped off. Police recovered the wallet during the chase.

The snatching happened in front of Tun Kiku Building and Happy Market.

An 18-year-old bystander, who was outside his house behind Family Building, heard the victim's scream for help. The teenager assisted the tourists and chased the suspect.

As the teenager was chasing the suspect, police officers arrived and took over the pursuit. (Ferdie de la Torre)

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Saipan Call-a-Ride suspended

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities and its para-transit operations partner, August Healthcare Group, LLC, which operates the specialized Saipan Call-a-Ride for individuals with disabilities and the *man'amko* since 2011 under a one-year service contract agreement, said Friday that the three-month extended service contract agreement expired on Oct. 17, 2012.

The three-month extension of services between the council and August Healthcare—from July 17, 2012, to Oct. 17, 2012—was made possible by August Healthcare's commitment to continue the service without financial assistance except fare box revenues collected from the riders and fuel provided by the council, the Office of the Governor, and the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs.

"Unfortunately, [August Healthcare] informed the council that it can no longer afford to provide the service without operation funding assistance despite rider revenues collected and fuel provided by the CNMI government," according to Pam Sablan, executive director of CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities.

Although many efforts were undertaken by the council with assistance by COTA to prevent any services disruption or suspension, funding to support the continuation of the Saipan Call-a-Ride operation was not immediately identified or available.

"Our only hope is when the council's request for financial assistance is entertained and approved by the Saipan Delegation to provide temporary operation assistance funds just until COTA receives its FTA award," said Sablan.

According to Thomas J. Camacho, special assistant for Public Transportation, the Commonwealth Office Transit Authority submitted its \$1.11 million fiscal year 2012 Urbanized Formula or its Section 5307 Consolidated Grant last week. Camacho anticipates a notice of award by the end of this month and the execution of its first grant award this November from the Federal Transit Authority.

However, until such time, the para-transit services will have to be temporarily suspended. The Call-A-Ride services will resume under the Commonwealth Office of Transit Authority once notice of funding award is received.

"We apologize for the disruption of services; however, CDD and COTA will notify the general public when services will resume," Sablan said. (CDD)

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Mr. Albert Sampson

Small Business Advisor NAVFAC Marianas

Mrs. Brandy M. Untalan

Customer Service Director
GSA, Federal Acquisition Service
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Mr. Boris Hertslet

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CNMI - Military Integration Management Committee

Register online at www.TinianChamber.com

The Tinian Chamber of Commerce's US Military Contracting Forum II will be held on November 16th, 2012. Registration for the event is \$35. Forum begins at 8AM (registration), 9AM (first speaker) and ends at 5:00PM.

Participants can avail of a special forum hotel rate (\$69+10%) at the Tinian Dynasty Hotel (670)328-2233 and special forum Saipan/Tinian flight rate of (\$20) via Star Marianas Air (670)433-9996. **FORUM SPONSORSHIP** is also still available - contact phil@shermanpacific.com for more information.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

The CNMI WIC (Women, Infants and Children) Program is pleased to announce that they are now accepting Vendor Applications for the Kagman geographical area on Saipan.

All interested vendors may pick up an application at the main office located on Upper Navy Hill Building # N-25 or through email request to Fabian Ulloa, WIC Vendor Management Coordinator, at fabianu@cnmiwic.org beginning October 19, 2012.

The deadline for submission of completed applications and required documentation will be no later than 4:00 p.m., October 26, 2012.

Prospective applicants are encouraged to carefully read through the criteria guidelines provided with the application to ensure minimum qualifications are met.

Inquiries and technical questions may be directed to Fabian Ulloa through email at fabianu@cnmiwic.org or at 664-4066.

The CNMI WIC Program funded by the United States Department of Agriculture Food & Nutrition Service is an Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer.

/s/ Juan N. Babauta

Chief Executive Officer

Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation

/s/ Carmen C. Cabrera

Administrator

CNMI WIC Program



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-13-003

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-13-003

GATE VALVE & FIRE HYDRANT REPLACEMENT KOBLELVILLE, SAIPAN

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Gate Valve and Fire Hydrant Replacement in Koblerville, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The work consists of excavation & removal of existing gate valves and installation of new 6-inch and 8-inch gate valve and fire hydrant assemblies connected to a 6-inch or 8-inch main waterline. Payment is only for the item as completely installed and accepted by the CUC. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 180 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The Bidding Documents may be picked-up, upon receipt of payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 23, 2012 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No. 15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**Gate Valve and Fire Hydrant Replacement Koblerville, Saipan**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 14, 2012**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A **Bid Guarantee** of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. A **Payment Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent and a **Performance Bond** of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 29, 2012** to Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Yvonne Cabrera, Water/Wastewater Engineer – via email yvonne.cabrera@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

UFO election on Nov. 24



Malasarte

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The United Filipino Organization has scheduled the election of its new officers on Nov. 24.

The event would coincide with the Thanksgiving celebration of the network of some 30 Filipino groups in the Northern Marianas, according to president Bong Malasarte.

The elected officers, Malasarte said, will serve in their new capacity beginning 2013.

"The celebration is definitely appropriate and timely because we can express our appreciation for the UFO year that is about to conclude and welcome ahead another productive year," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

As his tenure readies to expire, Malasarte said the umbrella organization has improved and has set up its command center in Puerto Rico.

Malasarte disclosed UFO's plans to purchase a desktop or a laptop before the year ends. He said the group will have enough in its coffers, thanks to the hard work and conscientiousness of current officers.

"Funding is very important in UFO's leadership. Decision-making would certainly be difficult if the group does not have the financial capability," he emphasized.

Malasarte expressed optimism that the new officers would be able to continue the community projects and services for which the UFO has been known in the Northern Marianas.

Next month's election, Malasarte said, would also be a venue for the group to make key decisions, which include determining whether or not UFO will retain two positions for vice president, and creating committees that would be in charge of the group's projects or events.

"It's very challenging if we only have one or two persons who would make an effort to make our projects possible. Having a committee would ease the workload," he explained.

Malasarte also revealed the group's plan to establish a committee that would directly coordinate with the Guam Consulate General to facilitate the communication and coordination process between the two entities.

The last community event that UFO will organize for the year is the annual *Paskong Pinoy* in December, and Malasarte said the group has already begun preparations for the upcoming Christmas festivities.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Oct. 22, 2000

Lang has to get a lawyer, says AG

Emboldened former Gov. Froilan C. Tenorio has to get a new lawyer and pay for his own defense to appeal a 1997 court ruling that ordered him to pay \$12.4 million to the CNMI people for unlawful expenditures of public funds. This was the contention of acting Attorney General Maya B. Kara, who yesterday reaffirmed the administration's initial rejection of any legal or financial assistance to the ex-governor because it is no longer a government obligation. "He has to get a new counsel by today (Thursday)," she told reporters in an interview. "The court will decide whether he is or not" entitled to the assistance which Froilan sought from Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio in their meeting last week.

CUC defends decision in Saipan power project

Saying it's like comparing apples and oranges, the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation yesterday lashed back at allegation that it has erred in its initial decision to award the controversial Saipan power project to Marubeni-Sithe after independent experts ranked other firms higher. Acting CUC Executive Director Patrick Leon Guerrero defended the selection process adopted by the government-owned utility corporation when it chose Japan's Marubeni Corp. and its U.S. partner, Sithe Energies, Inc., over other competitors last year. He said CUC and Burns & McDonnell—the private engineering firm it hired early this year in response to mounting complaints—evaluated the bidders on different proposals submitted as their "best and final offers."

Oct. 22, 2001

House leaders question Torres' ethics

Calling it a "desperate act of a desperate man," Speaker Benigno R. Fitial has denounced Rep. Stanley Torres (R-Saipan) for engaging in dirty politics and abusing his position as a legislator for political gain. Fitial was reacting to a letter Torres introduced at the end of a House of Representatives session Friday, which contained a laundry list of unsubstantiated claims against the speaker. The speaker called the accusations of Torres as "absurd," noting that, "Torres is obvious in his attempt to misinform the public and use his office as the forum right before an election," said Fitial.

Help extended to college students

The Refaluwasch Scholarship Trust Fund received a \$500-donation from the Office of Rep. William S. Torres, to assist Carolinian students pursue their higher education plans. Torres, in a letter addressed to Carolinian Affairs Inc. officers and the CNMI Scholarship Office, said the financial assistance complements his office's commitment to provide aid to all college students in the CNMI. He also offered support to the CNMI Scholarship Office, vowing to assist the agency become more active in the administration of the Refaluwasch Scholarship Trust Fund. According to Torres, the increased role of the scholarship-granting office in such efforts would enable the Carolinian Affairs Inc. to concentrate in securing more money for the trust fund through various activities.

Oct. 22, 2002

Insurance firm elevates protest vs CPA to court

An insurance company has elevated to the judicial court its bidding protest regarding the Commonwealth Ports Authority's insurance coverage for the fiscal years 2001 and 2003, which included seaport assets appraised at \$63 million. In a legal brief filed with the Superior Court yesterday, Marianas Insurance Company, Ltd. said the CPA could have saved some \$92,000 in premium payments if MICO was selected. Records showed the CPA awarded the bid to another insurance company, AON Insurance Micronesia. Brien Sers Nicholas, the lawyer for MICO, said that AON's initial proposal for premiums amounted to only \$624,000. After it was awarded the contract, Sers Nicholas alleged the amount of the premiums was changed to \$895,081.

'HR 2826 could still pass in a lame duck session'
Guam Rep. Robert A. Underwood expressed hope that his bill, House Resolution 2826, would be passed during a lameduck session of the U.S. House of Representatives. That bill essentially seeks to increase the limit on the waiver requirement for grants provided to American Samoa, Guam, the Virgin Islands, or the Commonwealth. "It [H.R. 2826] is moving as a single bill and it might pass in a lameduck session. If that happens, then the local governments everywhere stand to save a lot of money," said Underwood in an interview yesterday.



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-13-004

INVITATION FOR BIDS

CUC-IFB-13-004

Navy Hill Waterline and Pressure Improvement Project

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Construction of Navy Hill Waterline and Pressure Improvement Project in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This project is funded through a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA).

The work consists of installation of new waterlines, cut and cap and tapping to existing waterlines on Gloria Drive, Ocean View Drive, Isla Drive and Puetto St. Installation of new PRVs, gate valves, and construction of new booster pump station. The work is also inclusive of installation of new water lateral lines, reconnection of all existing water meters, asphalt paving restoration, etc. The work shall be done without disruption to the daily operation of the water system.

CUC requires the Project to be completed in **365 calendar days** from date of award of contract.

The Bidding Documents may be picked-up, upon receipt of payment from the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check, in the amount of \$100.00 (non-refundable) on an electronic disk file; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by a Site Visit is scheduled on **October 30, 2012 at 9:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and Seven (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-IFB-13-004, Navy Hill Waterline and Pressure Improvement Project**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 20, 2012**, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement the form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The bid guarantee may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General. A Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price and Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on November 7, 2012** to Mr. Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Larry Manacop, Water Engineer via email at larry.manacop@cucgov.org and Ms. Christie Sablan, Procurement & Supply, Administrative Support Assistant – christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

One-year waiver on landing fees for charters sought

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) is proposing to exempt airlines providing charter flights from paying landing fees at CNMI airports for one year starting on Jan. 1, 2013.

In his Senate Bill 17-109, Torres said this proposed exemption would entice airlines to fly charter flights and new routes and therefore help enhance the CNMI's tourism industry.

"The Commonwealth Ports Authority shall exempt the payment of the landing fee by existing airlines for charter flights that are not included in the air-

line's current approved scheduled flights and route. The exemption shall begin on January 1, 2013 and end of December 31, 2013," Torres said in his bill.

SB 17-109 could be acted on during the Senate's next session which may be next week.

The Senate leadership said yesterday once this bill becomes law, it will include not only those airlines providing services to Saipan, but also Rota and Tinian.

For example, if Korea-based Jeju Air Co. Ltd. moves on with its plan to start twice-a-week flight between South Korea and Rota next summer, then it could be exempted from paying CPA the landing fee.

Caution urged in spending for POB promotion

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Commonwealth Retirees Association director Sapuro Rayphand is urging the NMI Retirement Fund to be cautious in using retirees' money to promote the legislative initiative that endorses the floating of a pension obligation bond, an option that he said doesn't have the overwhelming support of retirees.

Rayphand, in a letter to Fund trustee *ad litem* Joseph C. Razzano on Monday, stated that the latter should know and recognize that CRA chair Lorenzo Cabrera, who represented the group in recent meetings, in no way repre-

sents the views of the full CRA membership and retirees who are non-members of the association.

Rayphand said that, contrary to the position of Cabrera, who supports the POB initiative, no membership-wide voting was sought or transpired on the POB issue. Thus Cabrera's views cannot be the opinion and position of all retirees of the Commonwealth, he added.

"Since neither Cabrera nor the CRA board have sought or obtained through CRA membership-wide voting or any membership-wide input respecting the POB matter, the notion of providing Fund money to Cabrera or the CRA for the purpose...of Cabrera

promoting his personal pro-CRA agenda would be utterly unfair and undemocratic," stated Rayphand.

Razzano, in an Oct. 8 meeting with CRA members, reportedly supported providing some \$6,000 to help the association in the public education on the POB initiative, which is up for ratification in the Nov. 6 mid-term elections.

"If you intend to give Fund money to any CRA member[s], or any member[s] of the general public, in respect to the POB initiative, then equal amounts of money should be given both to those who are for, and those who are against, the POB initiative," Rayphand told Razzano.

He claimed that a large number of CRA members and Fund beneficiaries question why the trustee *ad litem* or other Fund officials should even consider using Fund money to purportedly "educate" the public about POB matters.

"Any expenses related to POB or the mess created by the CNMI to the Fund's detriment should—as is your own compensation as the Fund's trustee *ad litem*—be paid not from the Fund's money but instead by the CNMI itself."

Rayphand said that many financial and bond experts who have considered the POB option before, including the Fund's own experts, have flatly rejected the notion as neither rational nor fiscally viable.



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PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, through its Chairwoman of the Board, is hereby giving notice that the Regular Meeting of the Board is scheduled on **Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 9:00 a.m. at the NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan**. The public is welcome to submit written or oral comments regarding the agenda below. Individuals interested in attending the meeting and needing special accommodations are requested to contact NMHC in advance.

- I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS**
 - a. Call to Order
 - b. Roll Call
 - c. Adoption of Agenda
 - d. Adoption of Minutes
 - i. Wednesday, August 15, 2012 – Regular Board Meeting Minutes
 - ii. Friday, August 24, 2012 – Special Board Meeting Minutes
- II. PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- III. CORPORATE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**
 - a. CDA-NMHC Tinian Office
 - b. Garapan Properties for Auction
 - c. 2012 LIHTC Application
 - d. PHD Program Updates
 - e. RD Payment Plan
 - f. Girl Scouts of the Northern Mariana Islands' Housing Unit Request
 - g. Tinian Subdivision Complaints
- IV. FIELD OFFICE REPORTS**
 - a. Rota Field Office
 - b. Tinian Field Office
- V. FISCAL AFFAIRS**
 - a. Status of FY2011 Audit
 - b. FY2012 Financial Status
 - c. Proposed Amendments to FY2013 Budget
- VI. LEGAL COUNSEL'S PENDING/ONGOING REPORT**
- VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION**
- VIII. OTHER MATTERS**
- IX. ADJOURNMENT**

(Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) (7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session.)

/S/ MARCIE M. TOMOKANE
Chairwoman of the Board



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

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Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport Car Rental Concessions CPA-RFP-011-12

Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of Six (6) Rental Car Concessions at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning October 5, 2012 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of \$50.00 per package. The pre-bid conference will be held on October 30, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room located on the Second Floor, Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on November 16, 2012, by or **before 4:30 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award. All proposals will be publicly opened on November 19, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation Office of the Executive Director

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-13-005
SUPPLY & DELIVERY OF OFFICE SUPPLIES

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified firms for the supply and delivery of office supplies for CUC Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The RFP Packet may be obtained upon receipt of a non-refundable payment from the CUC Treasury Section by cash, check or credit card, in the amount of \$50.00 for one set; at the CUC, Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan, between 7:30 AM to 11:30 AM and 12:30 PM to 4:00 PM, Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays.

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "Supply & Delivery of Office Supplies" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on November 21, 2012**. A copy of the entire submission is also required to be sent by email in PDF format, to Mr. Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. Purchasing Officer via email address manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, Purchasing Administrative Assistant via email address christie.sablan@cucgov.org. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered. Proposal will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission.

A Pre-Proposal Conference will be held on **October 25, 2012 at 10:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.15, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan.

All Offerors are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the Offeror due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

This Request for Proposal does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of proposals in anticipation of a contract. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations. The contractor shall be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and waive any imperfection in the Request for Proposal in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

All questions or request for clarification regarding this bid must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on October 30, 2012** to Manuel B. Sablan, Jr. CUC Purchasing Officer, via email – manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrative Assistant via email christie.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Charles Warren, CUC Chief Financial Officer via email charles_warren@cucgov.org.

ALAN W. FLETCHER
Acting Executive Director

Commonwealth Ports Authority



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Tinian International Airport Car Rental Concessions CPA-RFP-012-12

Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) Rental Car Concessions at the Tinian International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning October 5, 2012 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of \$50.00 per package. The pre-bid conference will be held on October 30, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room located on the Second Floor, Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on November 16, 2012, by or **before 4:30 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award. All proposals will be publicly opened on November 19, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Commonwealth Ports Authority



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Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport Car Rental Concessions CPA-RFP-013-12

Request for Proposals

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the award of three (3) Rental Car Concessions at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

Proposal packages can be obtained beginning October 5, 2012 at the CPA Administration Office, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport at a fee of \$50.00 per package. The pre-bid conference will be held on October 30, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room located on the Second Floor, Departure Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to the Executive Director, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and received by the CPA Administration Office (Saipan) on November 16, 2012, by or **before 4:30 p.m.**, in order to be considered for the award. All proposals will be publicly opened on November 19, 2012, at 2:00 p.m., at the CPA Conference Room.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject proposals in accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations.

/s/ EDWARD M. DELEON GUERRERO
Executive Director

Opinion

Saipan Tribune

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MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

Ma-utot chalan demokrasia

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.

Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.



Gi mapos na Mietkoles, Oktubre dia 17, i san-papa' na guma lehislatura ha punu ginagau in-bestigasian (gi hechuran resulasion impeachment) gi 'nos kuantos asuntu kontra i gobetnu. Gi halom ayu na resulasion i mana' keke para na kontratan nuebu na fasilitat kandet (power plant) ni balin \$2.3 biyon pesus pot 25 años na tiempu.

Estague' na asuntu i maguaguadog ni komite pot para una' para. Yangin masede, pues kada unu gi entre hita u fan apase \$40 Mit pesus mas na tax fuera ke haf' ta apapse gi presente.

Ha gana hueguña i republican politika, lau tinagam diniskontentu ginin i publiku pot klaru na fatus interes niha gi maprotehen interes linahay. Makat i mamamaila' na kobransa siha para i publiku.

I otru finatsu, ti u tunog i apas kandet taimanu i mafafama ni administrasiun. Hu sen agradese che'chu' animosu na kabesante as Rep. Joseph P. Deleon Guerrero. Maseha makat, ti sumeha ni unabes gi para u lagnos i daños na kontratan power plant. Siña hana safu i publiku lau ti sinede ni membron republican.

Pineble: Antes Yan Pa'gu

Pineble un' asuntu ni ti huna' mapot bumisita bastara ke gineng en-nau-yu' mage. Tat kantit, hogsu' yan katsada ti hu gacha' gi halom sumen tadtug na halom tanu' chinatsaga. Tat lokue' piliau gi sinague' kesnudan poble tihu chage. Gaige este siha na pahina petmanente man-ma-imprinta gi leblon linala'hu.

Guile na tiempu esta kase ennau i uttimon sisienta siha na sakan, taya' ayudun federat estake dinestrosia Marianas ni Pagyun Jean gi 1968.

Todu nesessidat familia mafachuchu'e ni dos saina yan famaguon niha. Entre makat na che'chu' gualu yan peskan tod klase sumatba hinanau megai na familia.

Ayu na tiempu 'nai hu lie' mañainata man-mauleg gi inadahan yan presetbasin neñkanu'. Deste eskomen mai'es, ma-ugas mendioka, ninalagon aguon gineng i gualu', totchen pinegsai yan kineni' sumulu' tasi yan halom tanu' man-mameskla tod.

Anchu lokue' i kutturan inana'en kinisechan gualu yan maseha hafa suetten niha i tautau siha. Estague' na kuttura mas umayuda i familia gi katkuet kinalamten niha. Metgot lokue' i sensian kooperasion gi halom i tautau gi komunida. Deste cho'chu' mahatsan palapala yan areglun fiestan i señgoñ tod mañgalamten ya mal-gulume i che'chu' familia yan linahyan.

Kada familia mafa' offisiu i gualu' kontodu pinegsai ga'ga' gi tattten guma. I nuebu na areglun hinemu' muna' para mamogsai gi gima'. Disbintaha dispues 'nai sessu man-masakenguan i familia siha parehu ha' tinanom yan pinegsai gi lanchu. Lau hagas patte gi kustumbe mamogsai gi tattten guma'.

Mientras tantos, mas megai gi tautau-ta man-macho'chu' entre gobetnu yan praibet. Mas libianu man-gana para mantension familia gi fina' offisiu siha ke tod dia gi halom maipen somnag gi gualu'. Estague' tumutuhon chumapag i fangualu'an gineng familia siha. Pot essu, suette 'an guaha 100 na natibu manguagualu' pa'gu.

Adumidide' ma-implementa ayudon neñgkanu', atkilon guma'

See MA-UTOT on Next Page



Has our trust been betrayed by our governor?

The CNMI is living in a state of betrayal of trust by its governor. For this the governor is being investigated whether to be impeached or not. The legislators are divided in their positions about whether to impeach him or not. Meanwhile many of us, the citizens, feel betrayed. Who should we trust? And in whom do we believe?

We have never been so divided in our history and all because of one man's inability or lack of desire to work on correcting our problems or because he has a different agenda that none of us know about. Meanwhile our pension fund has crashed, taking our dream of a comfortable retirement with it. The CHC is fast becoming comatose. The CUC with its escalating exorbitant fuel cost is causing many businesses to close. Tourism is down. And we citizens are in a stupor over all this. Where are the rainbows and tunnels of hope for a better future?

We have lost trust in our elected governor as well as in 10 of our elected representatives. Only nine representatives stood up and bravely called the governor to account. Think if it, only nine out of 20. What happened to the other 10? Do they also have private agendas more important than the whole community they represent? Do they know something we don't, or do they just have blind faith in the man? Let us express what all of us think about their behavior on Election Day on Nov. 6. Vote the way you think and feel. Sad to say, we are almost a complete failure in running our country.

We all recall the trust we had in our parents. We felt their love and kindness and concern for our well-being. Our children have trust in us as parents. Consider the trust wives and husbands put in each other. These are but a few simple daily examples. Daily we are surrounded by examples of trust. How much more important is the trust we have placed in the man who is our leader, guide and spokesman? I firmly believe that to be trusted is a greater compliment than being loved.

We have put our trust in our governor and other elected officials because we need their guidance and direction in our community. But what has happened to that trust that is infuriating us so much? Why has it gotten so bad? Couldn't all of this have been changed if he had wanted it to be?

We feel betrayed and hurt. We feel that our trust has been turned against us to benefit the man who is supposed to be the "father" of our country at the expense of all of us. We feel distress and emotionally robbed. In fact, the greater the trust we put in him, the greater the hurt we feel. How can we trust him again?

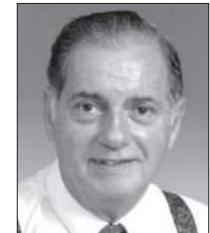
Once trust is questioned or lost it is rarely regained. He has shown lack of integrity. For his betrayal all that remains now is to find justice for his dastardly acts against our community.

We trusted him by accepting his shortfalls in his first term. But as his ego began to be inflated, his acts became more distressful. The insolence and disregard for us fellow citizens has become more and

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is a former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



more open. Fear has been slowly instilled in everybody around him. At any moment any of us, formerly friends, were fired because we didn't please him anymore.

When he couldn't have his way, he changed political parties and dismissed those of us who did not follow. Fear of unemployment is being used as a weapon against anyone of us who dares to speak out.

What are we to do in this state of distrust that has beset our community? How are we to reunite? Can this man regain the lost trust? Don't many of us now feel fearful and desperate and want to run away from these beloved islands?

What a great chance for greatness he has wasted! All of the opportunities were there to make him one of the greatest governors. He is a brilliant man with great political prowess. Most of the charges against him should have turned out as acts of good to the community. But his lack of communication and underhanded activities created deeper mistrust.

Think of some of the world's greatest leaders who wrestled against great odds and made their countries great. They labored for and with their citizens. Unfortunately our governor didn't see the good he could have done. Now we are a nation pitted against each other. Friend is distrustful of friend. And our great benefactor the United States is daily losing faith in our ability to govern ourselves. Meanwhile investors and tourists are shying away sensing our dilemma.

We have to search honestly in our hearts whether his efforts to straighten out our problems have been truthful and productive. We must decide whether what he has been doing these past years has been beneficial or destructive or for personal gain? We each have our own viewpoint in this matter. I merely want us to think and act according to our principles of right and wrong. We must each decide by ourselves. I am not telling you what to decide. But a decision must be made.

Let me ask a question of all his supporters: Name 16 good points or even 10 good points that he has done that have truly benefited and made our community a better place to live in during his tenure. If there are good points why have these good points never been

See TRUST on Next Page

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An open letter to Precinct 1 voters

To all the people of the CNMI and in particular to the people of Precinct 1: When you voted me into office nearly three years ago, you placed your confidence in me that I will work for you and do the best of my ability. Unfortunately, most of you have made judgment on issues that all of us are affected. For every actions that I tackle here at the Legislature, it was done in the best interest of our people. Tough decision were made but were made due hospital, medical referral, retirement program, high cost of utility (power), PSS, NMC, etc. I have repeatedly mentioned during our House sessions and again on Oct. 17, 2012, to all my fellow House members, reminding them that we must work together in your interest.

Rep. Froilan C. Tenorio was right, we are do-nothing Legislature, because all we do during House sessions are debate and head-butting each other rather than working together as elected officials.

FYI, all of our current problems are not only the administration's problems. We are all elected to serve each and every one of you. Most of us pointed fingers at one person only. As far as I am concerned, it's all of us elected officials who should be held accountable.

Don't be fooled by our veteran legislators. These issues have been in existence for more than 10 years. Excuses are all they can come up with. Please review your facts, think back as far as 10 years ago and ask yourself, what have they done? Did they rectify our problems? You decide and if you truly believe that they have done a great job, then by all means re-elect and put them back into office.

To all who believe that I have done my best, I salute you. My family and I, would like to extend our sincere appreciations to each and everyone of you. *Yan hun dunkulu na si yu'us ma'ase*, thank you, *olomwaay* and let's pray together that our lives here in this great Commonwealth will prosper.

Rep. Joseph Mafnas Palacios
Legislature, Capital Hill

Continuing the dialog

Dear Rep. Joseph Palacios: Thank you for sharing this email with me. As I have said before, you have always been open and forthcoming with me on every issue that we have discussed. I admire that and appreciate it very much. I do not disagree with much of what you have said. But what I do disagree with you on the crucial steps necessary in moving toward a better CNMI.

First, I agree that the CNMI is in a big mess due to years of neglect of duty, corrupt practices, and criminal actions committed by numerous individuals. It is also in this state due to a severe lack of vision, planning, leadership, and execution.

Secondly, I agree that one person is not responsible for this mess.

Finally, I agree that the Legislature has not done much to remedy the situation, especially in recent years.

Now here is where we start to differ a bit. You mention that the Legislature has failed. Aside from the Impeachment Resolution, all that is needed for the House to generate bills to address the problems you pointed out is a majority of their members. You have had that majority. That majority has controlled the tone and tenor of every session for the past years and it has been unlike anything the CNMI has ever witnessed. It was a one-track mindset from the get-go, a "casino or nothing" mentality that I would never have imagined anyone would allow to occur.

I witnessed this firsthand on many occasions at sessions, public hearings, personal meetings with representatives, and other occasions. Every possible effort was expended time and time again to force through legislation that would enable casino gambling in

Saipan. Stalemates on other legislation occurred and huge divides in the House were created.

Needless to say, nothing would have stopped the 17th from passing out of its body any bill (aside from the two-third required impeachment resolution) that the majority saw as proper remedy to the situations the CNMI is suffering from.

That did not occur.

Also, although one man is not fully responsible for all the problems in the CNMI, that one man, the governor, is fully responsible for the items contained in HR 17-111. And after the testimony and evidence received this past month, his ties to those items are indisputable. We can point to other issues

in order to try and remove focus from his misdeeds, but that will not make them go away and that will do nothing but create a precedent of acceptance and a message of sanction for all his future violations.

HR 17-111 laid out just a few of the more egregious misdeeds committed by the governor. We all know that there have been many more. What that piece of legislation illustrated was a pattern of neglect and corrupt practices by the highest elected leader in our land.

Yes, there are many issues in the CNMI such as CUC, CHC, NMIRF, etc. Those issues, however, serious, should never be used as a legitimate reason by lawmakers to turn a blind eye to the items listed out and substantiated in HR 17-111. Items that were perpetrated by Governor Fitial. Items that Governor Fitial is directly responsible for. Items that have never been adequately refuted.

We, as a community, would not let a thief caught by the police off the hook if he turned to us and said, "The CNMI is in disarray, leave me alone to steal and let it be." That would be inadequate defense and we all are smart enough to know it. Yet, that is exactly what 10 representatives did on the evening of Oct. 17, 2012.

The 10 of you viewed and reviewed so much information and sincere testimony given to the Special Committee by so many individuals who care about the future of our great islands. The people that came into your sacred house gave their all in order to see justice was served. They risked their time, their relationships, their jobs, and perhaps even their lives, to give an account of the abuses that occurred—abuses that were directly tied to the governor of the CNMI.

The response that the 10 of you gave amounted to a "So what? Who cares? Let it be" reaction to the mountain of evidence and litany of testimony that backed up the findings in HR 17-111. The 10 of you turned a blind eye.

Would impeaching Governor Fitial solve everything? No. Would arresting and convicting a thief today stop all crime in the CNMI? No. Should we turn a blind eye to either? Of course not.

The oath you took when you were seated was to uphold and defend the laws and Constitution of the CNMI. There was no condition or fine print that excused the governor of the CNMI or gave you the right to turn from that oath for any reason whatsoever. Yet 10 did on that Oct. 17th evening. That was a night that the CNMI will not soon forget.

Although it would have been great if HR 17-111 was passed through to the Senate and the governor was given an opportunity to directly answer the articles put before him, it was not a loss to the community that the vote occurred. That vote solidified the positions of each of the sitting representatives on this grave matter.

ourselves or we will sink further into misery so deep that even our benefactor, the United States, cannot help us. Help begins within us.

Several brave members of the Legislature have tried to right the injustice done to the community, but *familia* ties and fear of loss of employment has prevailed. What is next? May God give us the wisdom and strength to know what to do in these critical times.

Change and time are inevitable. On Nov. 6, we will have an opportunity to cast our vote to continue this situation or to change it. Remember no one knows how you cast your vote when in the ballot booth. Let us vote our conscience and truth.

Let me conclude with several quotes on trust:

"A man must stand erect, not be kept erect by others."

"Never value anything as profitable that compels you to break your promise, to lose self-respect, to hate any man, to suspect, to curse, to act the hypocrite, to desire anything that needs walls and curtains." —Meditations by Marcus Aurelius

"People ask me why is it so hard to trust people, and I ask them why is it so hard to keep a promise?"

But you know whatever tomorrow brings, a smile must always be on our faces. It shows each other that, yes, hope does spring eternal. So wear a big smile and pass it along. God bless us all!

As I stated in my testimony before the House on more than three occasions, that vote boiled down to a simple choice between what is right and what is wrong. There was no gray area and there was no sensible, logical, or reasonable reason for HR 17-111 to not be passed unanimously by the 17th House of Representatives. Instead, we as a community know full well where each member now stands.

It appears that accountability and justice will have to be attempted once again in the 18th Legislature. It is not too late for any of the 10 members to come forward and alter their stance on this issue.

I would ask that at some point, if you haven't already, you review the video clips contained in these playlists listed below my signature.

They contain the testimony of the witnesses before the Special Committee on Impeachment and they contain news clips of the proceedings.

As with any attempt to turn things around in a failing system, steps must be taken. Very seldom is there ever one magic pill or solution to fix systemic problems. The impeachment of the governor is a huge step that must be taken in order to get the CNMI back on track. I am not foolish enough to know that there is quite a journey ahead of that step and future steps I will not live to see. But that must not stop me from taking that first step in order to hand a better CNMI over to our children than the one we have been handed.

I wish you the best and know that you must be very conflicted in these trying times as many others are as well. I end by thanking you once again for continuing the dialog and continuing to speak with us.

Glen Hunter
Finasisu, Saipan

Noble 9

I have been watching and reading the news about the impeachment processes and I thought there is something different about these from the previous political arena we had. We are maturing and the people are beginning to act like true Americans, people who value their liberties and are beginning to demand accountability, honesty, and integrity.

I salute and congratulate the "Noble 9": House minority leader Joe Guerrero, Reps. Ray Tebuted, Ray Yumul, Frank dela Cruz, Tony Sablan, Janet Maratita, Trenton Conner, Ralph Demapan, and Edmund Villagomez. You are the embodiment of the true representative of the people. Don't be discouraged, The vote 10 to 9 is too close to call. This is the time to regroup and pursue and not to falter. We the electors who believe in you and in what you are doing stand behind you in pursuit of what is right. We need honest, just, fair leaders, leaders who follow the law and work for the general welfare of the governed. We do not need leaders who use their power and position to take advantage of situations and the governed.

Congratulations to you "Noble 9." God be with always. May your tribe multiply.

Fe Y. Calixterio
As Terlaje, Saipan

TRUST

From Page 10

brought out against the allegations in defense? I never heard of any. Have you?

Some of us know more of the truth of the 16 allegations that he is accused of than others. Now it is up to us to decide whether to remain silent or to speak out. Is the welfare of our country and fellow citizens more important or is our job or fear of speaking out more important? Have we been betrayed or not?

Actually an impeachment is simply the firing of an individual from a job we gave to him for several years. Many of us feel that he is not carrying out the expectations we had. Have you ever been fired or threatened to be fired? It is the same.

Frankly speaking, I know where I stand. I have lost trust in the man for he has repeatedly broken promises made to me over the years and I have known him for over 20 years! But that is me. What are your true feelings and experiences with him?

Please let us speak up and declare where we stand! Has he hurt our community or not? We must rebuild the trust we have lost among

ourselves or we will sink further into misery so deep that even our benefactor, the United States, cannot help us. Help begins within us.

Several brave members of the Legislature have tried to right the injustice done to the community, but *familia* ties and fear of loss of employment has prevailed. What is next? May God give us the wisdom and strength to know what to do in these critical times.

Change and time are inevitable. On Nov. 6, we will have an opportunity to cast our vote to continue this situation or to change it. Remember no one knows how you cast your vote when in the ballot booth. Let us vote our conscience and truth.

Let me conclude with several quotes on trust:

"A man must stand erect, not be kept erect by others."

"Never value anything as profitable that compels you to break your promise, to lose self-respect, to hate any man, to suspect, to curse, to act the hypocrite, to desire anything that needs walls and curtains." —Meditations by Marcus Aurelius

"People ask me why is it so hard to trust people, and I ask them why is it so hard to keep a promise?"

But you know whatever tomorrow brings, a smile must always be on our faces. It shows each other that, yes, hope does spring eternal. So wear a big smile and pass it along. God bless us all!

MA-UTOT

From Page 10

yan hinemu' gi tautau-ta. Huñgan siña ta po'luna i rumisibeste siha na ayudon federat i man-nama'se'. Guiya este un' manera 'nai siña ta pesa haye nama'se' 'sino tautau-ta ni ti muna' siña sin este siha na ayudu. Mas didog i kuestion 'nai sige hu guadog pot pineble.

Maliñgun i kinilu siha

Humuyuñg i kabesanten pastores pastahen kinilu ya sige ha tufuñg i pinegais. Ha li'e' na lamegai manaigue gi halom katdume 'sino tropa. Mamaisen kau man-tinichu'.

Ineppe ni tautau-na: "Ahe' señot, hagu mismu dumulalag 'nai un' diñgu i kelat ya ti un' huchum i trañka".

Sige pa'gu i prohimu man-hassu haf' taimanu para rikohiña ni man-adispatta na kinilu. Makat na asuntu sa' manchagu' na pastahen 'nai mangaige i tropa gi sumen dañkulu na hogsu 'sino sabana.

Ni u dimu tula noche, esta sottau i manhanau siha na kinilu. Taya' dinisehan niha bumira siha tatte gi hagas pastahen ni hinehegse manadan atburoru siha.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.pr.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 20 mph.	Mostly sunny with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 87° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 88° ▼ 78°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 84 ▼ 79
Palau	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Yap	Showers	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 76
Kosrae	Showers	▲ 85 ▼ 76
Majuro	Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 81

Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 57
Beijing	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 39
Hong Kong	Sunny	▲ 84 ▼ 75
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 84 ▼ 74
London	Showers	▲ 60 ▼ 54
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲ 68 ▼ 54
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲ 91 ▼ 78
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	▲ 73 ▼ 47
Miami	Showers	▲ 84 ▼ 75
New York	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 51
Osaka	Showers	▲ 67 ▼ 54
Paris	Sunny	▲ 71 ▼ 54
Pusan	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 51
Rome	Sunny	▲ 75 ▼ 57
Salem	Showers	▲ 51 ▼ 40
San Francisco	Rain	▲ 59 ▼ 55
Seoul	Sunny	▲ 59 ▼ 44
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 70 ▼ 53
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲ 72 ▼ 55

Tides

Sunrise/Sunset

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	6:10 AM	5:53 PM	Today	10:43 AM	10:23 PM
Tuesday	6:10 AM	5:52 PM	Sunday	11:39 AM	11:23 PM
Wednesday	6:11 AM	5:52 PM	Monday	12:30 PM	
Thursday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM	Tuesday	2:42 PM	2:08 AM
Friday	6:11 AM	5:51 PM	Wednesday	3:21 PM	2:59 AM

Note: Blank spaces indicate that a rising or a setting did not occur during that 24-hour interval.

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

ISLAND SNAPSHOT

Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.

BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.

BUSINESS

Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.

SAMUT SARI

Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.

TRAVERLOGUE

Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.

CAMPUS BULLETIN

Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

the name of contact person, and a phone number.

- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan

To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPT 23, 2012

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062 2:40am 3:10am 1, 3, 5

SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5062 2:40am 3:15am 1, 3, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070 4:35am 5:25am 2, 4, 6, 7

UA5062 4:50am 5:40am 1, 3, 5

UA5068 8:40am 9:30am Daily

UA5074 11:30am 12:20pm 1, 4, 5, 7

UA5076 3:10pm 4:00pm Daily

UA5078 6:50pm 7:40pm Daily

UA5072 9:55pm 10:45pm Daily

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5062 3:45am 5:40am 1, 3, 5

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)

UA5062 3:40am 4:15am 1, 3, 5

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5062 2:40am 4:20am 1, 3, 5 via ROP

UA5069 2:45am 3:35am 2, 4, 6, 7

UA5071 7:10am 8:00am Daily

UA5073 10:05am 10:55am Daily

UA5075 1:45pm 2:35pm 1, 4, 5, 7

UA5077 5:25pm 6:15pm Daily

UA5079 8:35pm 9:25pm Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287 6:05am 8:45am Daily

DL297 4:35pm 7:20pm Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606 2:20am 6:00am 1

OZ606 2:50am 6:30am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

OZ604 3:30pm 6:55pm Daily

SAIPAN (SPN)-PUSAN (BUS)

UZ608 3:20am 6:35am 4, 7

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

3U8646 4:20am 7:30am 2, 6

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648 6:10am 8:40am 1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701 2:20am 11:05am 1 via ICN

OZ606/701 2:50am 11:05am 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN

UA190/5079 10:55am 9:25pm 3, 6 via GUM

UA190/5079 10:55am 9:25pm 3, 6 via GUM

OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:00am+1 7 via ICN

OZ702/605 12:15pm 1:45am+1 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN

PR110/UA5071 10:10pm 8:00am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

PR110/UA5071 10:10pm 8:00am+1 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

UA184/5071 10:55pm 8:00am+1 1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

UA184/5071 11:25pm 8:00am+1 2, 5 via GUM

OZ704/603 11:45pm 2:20pm+1 Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ750/603 1:00am 2:20pm Daily via ICN

OZ

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

People deserve an explanation

I am deeply disappointed that House Resolution 17-111 was defeated. I am sure there are others who feel the same as I do. I want share my feelings with your readers and ask that they, too, express their disappointment. With the upcoming election on Nov. 6, 2012, more than ever, *it is imperative that we exercise our right to vote and support those whom we trust to do the right thing for the people of the CNMI. We must insist that those legislators who voted against the passage of the Impeachment Resolution must publicly explain their respective position on it.*

I for one have heard alleged violations, misconduct, and argument in support of the 16 Articles in HR 17-111. I am convinced that this resolution should have passed to dispel any shadow of a doubt that the

To Ms. A.G. Limtiaco

This is my concerned citizen request for action by the U.S. Justice Department to investigate the police officers in the CNMI involved with facilitating the escape of former attorney general Edward Buckingham, the obstruction of justice that aided his exit, and threats against citizens by armed officers including a person trying to deliver Buckingham's subpoena. I also request an investigation on other police misconduct due to the ongoing risk to public safety these officers pose.

Various law enforcement officers have pleaded the Fifth in a televised legislative hearing and that alone warrants a federal investigation or federal task force because the governor, former AG Buckingham, and illegitimate AG Aleluyu can't enforce the laws of the CNMI because of their own association. The impeachment proceeding itself is a mockery of justice.

We believe everyone in the Commonwealth understands

Rock the vote

When I coined the word "politricks," it was easy one because it is evident that dirty politics still plagues the island. It best describes everything that has to do with anything. In my vocabulary, politricks means: krook-id crooks. We see the desperation of a candidate to get the numbers up. We learned to respect the ones who fought for the betterment of the CNMI only to later turn a blind eye in the end. Somewhere in one's term they lost their pride and must call it back. That is when "politricks" comes in to play.

The moment that pride is lost, you know he or she has consulted with very bad people. That is why I don't go to debates or listen to village campaigns because all you hear is rhetoric. I just vote for the person who

governor is either guilty or not guilty. As it is now, for the benefit of the people of the CNMI, I must insist that these allegations be clarified. Defeating Resolution 17-111 in my opinion does not necessarily mean that the governor is cleared of all allegations. Worse yet, the very nature of the defeat of 17-111 puts the 10 House members who voted against it in a precarious position or possible accessory to the misdeed. Simply put, they put themselves under a suspicious mode. If the 10 who voted against the resolution feel that they did the right thing I would like to kindly ask them to explain their respective positions. I can't help but feel that the 10 House members who voted against 17-111 appear to be covering up for the governor.

Those representatives who voted in support of 17-111 spent weeks to finally reach their de-

cision; to proceed with the impeachment pursuant to 17-111. The 16 articles contained in the resolution have been carefully researched to ensure that the allegations/accusations made against the governor are accurate.

During my brief employment with this government, I learned that every movement I made had to comply with established laws and regulations. Otherwise

I had to be accountable for my performance. Working for the government is no easy thing.

To the House members of the Legislature, you have had ample time to dwell on each of the articles in 17-111. You have the responsibility to evaluate and decide if you voted with clear conscience and whether or not the governor violated anything as stated in the resolution.

I think the governor has overstepped his boundaries. You as legislative members must demonstrate your ability to decide what is right and what is wrong. The fact that you voted against the Impeachment could be construed as you supporting the violation of our laws.

I would like to ask the 10 members of the House who voted against the impeachment to

explain to us, the people of the CNMI, what prompted you vote the way you did? Are you supporting what the governor did as per the 16 articles in the resolution? You cannot just walk away and hope that we won't ask why. Why did you vote against the Impeachment?

David M. Sablan Sr.
Papago, Saipan

Throwing a fit is no solution

So Ed Propst likes to call the governor "Ben." Are the rest of us supposed to care? What Ed likes to call Governor Fitial is his own choice. He can call him whatever he likes. But if Ed wants us to listen to him, he should do better than writing a letter about what he likes to call the governor and why things should be done exactly the way Ed likes them.

Indeed, Governor Fitial recognizes the right of his critics to voice their opinions—even when those opinions are soaked with slander and innuendo, and cloaked behind one man's many online pen names. Ed must think himself quite important if he tells the newspaper to print an essay about what names he likes to use for the governor.

Screaming, yelling, and accusing won't help these islands. Ed Propst is frustrated that things aren't run the way he likes for them to be run. And when it's not to his liking, he threatens to knock over the entire game table. Is that any way for a mature adult to act?

He, along with Glen Hunter, wants things to be a certain way. His way. I'm sure this will be cause for him and Glen to go at it between themselves soon enough. Maybe they have already done so in cyberspace under their many pseudo names.

A mature adult in a democracy waits for the next election to elect someone else, or offers a better option himself. Ed doesn't have any better options for us. Nothing. *Nada.* What would an EdPropstocracy look like? We don't know, because he's never offered anything. Ed Propst, instead, wants to extra-legally remove the governor from office *now*, instead of waiting for the next election as the law demands citizens to do. And Ed doesn't offer anything better than the governor. He only offers farfetched criticisms, innuendo, and conspiracy theories, none of which have any solid evidence behind them.

What else can we say about Ed's letter? It sure has a lot of paranoid accusations. "Destroy our children's future" by sign-

ing a power contract? "Doing the devil's work" by engaging in politics like any normal politician? We know what usually follows: a comparison to Hitler. Did Ed forget to include that this time around, or is he saving that accusation for one of his online sock puppets?

No one is perfect. Not even Ed Propst. Governor Fitial is our duly elected leader, and has been following his strong electoral mandate. The economy hasn't been kind to the CNMI, but that's not something the governor can change. If Ed Propst were governor, he'd wave his hands and scream a lot and maybe accuse a global conspiracy of felling the garment industry or accuse some "shady company" of being behind Japanese tourism. Ed has never held any public office nor any position of leadership, so he has yet to find out that throwing tantrums doesn't help in the real, adult world. Governor Fitial is an honest man, putting in an honest day's work on finding

real solutions to our island's problems. The best Ed can do is accuse, scream, and throw around strange conspiracy theories.

Ed's letter is so eager to find fault with the current administration but doesn't offer even one positive solution for our islands' problems. And he doesn't mention, not even in passing, what would happen if the governor were impeached and who would benefit. We know that Ed's sense of vengeance and see-I-told-you-so would definitely benefit. He'd be like the kid who's smiling because he put his classmate's eye out. But the CNMI needs capable, proven leadership, not one man's personal vendettas.

If Ed offers any real, workable solutions to our problems, I'll be glad to listen. I'm sure Governor Fitial will also be glad to listen. But yelling loudly and throwing tantrums has no place in trying to help our islands.

Carmen DLG Sablan
Dandan, Saipan



NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514

Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

Website: http://www.nmhc.gov.mp



AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE UNDER POWER OF SALE IN DEED OF TRUST

Francisco L. Kaipat, (collectively "Trustor"), on or about February 21, 2001 gave and delivered to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, formerly known as the Mariana Island Housing Authority ("Trustee"), acting on behalf of the Department of Veterans Affairs, United States of America, ("VA"), a Deed of Trust upon certain real property hereinafter described, which Deed of Trust was recorded on February 26, 2001 under Document No. 01-268 to secure payment of a Promissory Note of the Trustor to the Trustee, acting on behalf of the VA.

The Deed of Trust and this Notice of Sale affect the property hereafter described:

LOT NO. 128 D 51, (formerly known as part of Lot 018 D 57), containing an area of 620 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 128 D 00 the original of which was recorded 07 DEC 99 as Document No. 99-2896 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

The Trustor has defaulted on payment of the Note secured by the Deed of Trust, and by reason of said default Trustee issued its Amended Notice of Default on September 21, 2011. More than thirty days have passed since the default notice was served on Trustor and said default has not been cured.

Pursuant to 2CMC §4622(b)(2), NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, Trustee will, on **Monday, November 12, 2012 at 10:00 a.m., at the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation's office in Garapan, Saipan** under power of sale contained in the Deed of Trust, sell the above described parcel of real property at public auction to the highest qualified bidder, to satisfy the obligations secured by said Deed of Trust. **The minimum bid offer shall be not less than \$69,000.00 the total amount due under the VA loan.**

A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale. The remaining balance will be due within 72 hours of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within 72 hours will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will revert to NMHC. The sale shall be without warranty as to the title or interest to be conveyed or as to the property of the Deed of Trust, other than that the Trustee is the lawful holder of such Deed of Trust. The purchase price shall be payable by cash, certified check or cashier's check.

Trustee reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to cancel or extend the date, time and place for sale of such property. Any prospective buyer must be a person authorized by the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to hold title to real property in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Lot No.:	128 D 51
Area:	820 m ²
Gross Living Area:	1,201 Ft ²
Location:	Adilanto Loop, Sugar King Estates, Saipan
3 BR, 2 Bath	
Minimum Bid:	\$70,504.00
Bid Date:	December 5, 2011
Bid Time:	10:00 a.m.
Bid Place:	NMHC Conference Room, Garapan, Saipan

DATED this 11th day of October, 2012.

/S/ Jesse S. Palacios
Corporate Director, NMHC



Japanese Autumn Festival endures as a crowd drawer

PHOTOS BY CLARISSA V. DAVID

Officers and members of the Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas pose for a group photo with island leaders and visiting Katori Shrine religious followers after the ceremony held at the Sugar King Park last Saturday, kicking off the 27th Japanese Autumn Festival celebration.



By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Japanese Society of the Northern Marianas hosted the 27th Japanese Autumn Festival on Saipan in Garapan last Oct. 21, bringing together spectators of all backgrounds to celebrate the annual celebration of Japanese culture.

Saturday's event kicked off with the Katori Shrine ceremony at the Sugar King Park, where island officials and local Japanese leaders were joined by about 30 religious followers.

of the Katori Shrine in Japan led by their head priest to commemorate the occasion.

After the ceremony, the visiting Katori Shrine followers accommodated some 30 children garbed in customary Japanese wardrobe as they made Shinto offerings and received gift bags.

The festivities carried on at the Paseo de Marianas, where several concessionaires selling traditional Japanese and international fares as well as non-food merchandise were set up at bargain prices.

Saturday afternoon's pro-

gram began with the ceremonial breaking of the sake barrel led by event organizers, and the Japanese alcoholic beverage was shared with the audience. Games and cultural dance performances, including the traditional Yosakoi and Bon Dance, provided additional entertainment.

The Japanese Society of Northern Marianas is a non-profit corporation chartered in July 3, 1985, and is currently headed by president Nick Nishikawa, also general manager of Hyatt Regency Saipan.



Willie and Aya Matsumoto of Pacific Eagle Enterprises prepare to make their offering at the Katori Shrine.



Two males serve sake, a Japanese alcoholic beverage, to the adults in the crowd.



Former governor Pedro P. Tenorio participates in one of the rites.



Two mothers and their children check out the giveaways.



Parents and their offspring get ready to make their offerings at the Shinto shrine.



A big crowd is seen at the Paseo de Marianas for the afternoon festivities.



Spectators check out one of the game booths at the festival venue.



Yosakoi performers from Japan entertain the crowd.

Business

Early look at Windows 8 baffles consumers

By PETER SVENSSON
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—The release of Microsoft's Windows 8 operating system is a week away, and consumers are in for a shock. Windows, used in one form or another for a generation, is getting a completely different look that will force users to learn new ways to get things done.

Microsoft is making a radical break with the past to stay

relevant in a world where smartphones and tablets have eroded the three-decade dominance of the personal computer. Windows 8 is supposed to tie together Microsoft's PC, tablet and phone software with one look. But judging by the reactions of some people who have tried the PC version, it's a move that risks confusing and alienating customers.

Tony Roos, an American missionary in Paris, installed a free preview version of Windows 8

on his aging laptop to see if Microsoft's new operating system would make the PC faster and more responsive. It didn't, he said, and he quickly learned that working with the new software requires tossing out a lot of what he knows about Windows.

"It was very difficult to get used to," he said. "I have an 8-year-old and a 10-year-old, and they never got used to it. They were like, 'We're just going to use Mom's computer.'"

Windows 8 is the biggest



In this Thursday, Aug. 23, 2012, file photo, a new Microsoft Corp. logo, left, is seen on an exterior wall of a new Microsoft store inside the Prudential Center mall, in Boston.

revision of Microsoft Corp.'s operating system since it introduced Windows 95 amid great fanfare 17 years ago. Ultimately, Windows grew into a \$14 billion a year business and helped

make former Chief Executive Bill Gates the richest man in the world for a time. Now, due to smartphones and tablets, the personal computer industry is slumping. Computer companies are desperate for something that will get sales growing again. PC sales are expected to shrink

this year for the first time since 2001, according to IHS iSuppli, a market research firm.

The question is whether the new version, which can be run on tablets and smartphones, along with the traditional PC, can satisfy the needs of both types of users.

FHB posts 4 percent net income gain for first 9 months of 2012

billion, an increase of 4.3 percent.

■ **Total Loans and Leases:** were \$8.7 billion up 5.9 percent.

■ **Non-Performing Assets to Total Assets:** remained one of the lowest in the industry at 0.21 percent.

■ **Efficiency Ratio:** was 44.0 percent, making First Hawaiian the most productive bank in Hawaii and one of the most efficient in the nation.

For the third quarter of 2012, First Hawaiian noted several accomplishments and milestones:

■ The Federal Home Loan Bank of Seattle announced that the bank was the recipient of its 2012 Community Spirit Award. First Hawaiian received the award in recognition for its support of affordable housing projects in Hawaii and Guam.

■ First Hawaiian was the recipient of the Visa Service Quality Performance Award, which recognized the bank for educating its merchant customers on acceptance procedures resulting

in lower fraud losses.

■ The bank's quarterly Business Activity Report showed Hawaii credit and debit card sales transactions up 9.44 percent in the third quarter over the previous year, with 15 out of 16 sectors posting positive growth for the fourth consecutive quarter. The Guam BAR also showed transactions up by 7.99 percent in the third quarter 2012 over prior year with half of its sectors posting double digit growth.

■ The Makiki Branch was redesigned to offer customers a more modern and spacious environment as part of the bank's strategy focused strengthening customer relationships.

First Hawaiian Bank (www.fhb.com) with \$16.1 billion in total assets was founded in 1858 and is Hawaii's oldest and largest bank. It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of BNP Paribas, a leading global financial services institution. (FHB)

INVITATION FOR BIDS WATER TASK FORCE ITB 13-GOV-001



Governor Benigno R. Fitial, through the CNMI Water Task Force, are soliciting sealed bids for Security Services for the Water Task Force Drill Rig on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of the project approval from OIA.

The project Scope of Work and Proposal Forms will be available on or after **October 15, 2012** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. A mandatory pre-bid conference for this project is scheduled at **10:00 AM**, on **October 26, 2012**, at the WTF Conference Room, Saipan.

All inquiries shall be in writing and addressed to Pedro Sasamoto, Program Manager, Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 or faxed to (670) 664-2279. Inquiries must be received no later than 4:00 PM on **October 25, 2012**.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, contained in the CNMI Administrative Code, Title 70 Subchapter 70-30.3. Preference is not available to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Sealed bids must be marked "**IFB13-GOV-001**". For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 PM local time **November 13, 2012**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 PM local time **November 13, 2012**, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and three copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than **November 13, 2012**, and must be received no later than 2:00 PM **November 23, 2012**. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly open and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 3:00 PM local time, **November 23, 2012**. However, if no Notices of Intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 3:00 PM local time on **November 13, 2012**.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

/s/Benigno R. Fitial,
Governor and Contracting Officer

/s/Herman S. Sablan
Director, Procurement and Supply

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RFP 13-GOV-002



Construction Management/Contract Compliance For Water Task Force Projects

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the CNMI Water Task Force (WTF), are soliciting sealed Proposals from qualified Consultants to provide Construction Management/Contract Compliance Services for various WTF contracts and projects.

The project Scope of Work will be available on or after **October 15, 2012** at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan.

All questions concerning this proposal shall be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 pm, **October 26, 2012** to Pedro Sasamoto, WTF Program Manager (facsimile) number (670) 664-2279.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of the Interior. Award of this project is contingent upon receipt of project approval from OIA.

The proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 70-30.3-305. Preference per Public Law 15-95 as further amended by Public Law 15-118 is not available in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funds for this project.

Proposals must be sealed and marked "**Construction Management/Contract Compliance**", **RFP 13-GOV-002**. One (1) original and four (4) copies must be submitted. Sealed proposals must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply, at Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **3:00 p.m., November 13, 2012 (CNMI local time)**.

The CNMI reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if to do so will be in the best interest of the CNMI. All proposals shall become the exclusive property of the CNMI government.

/s/BENIGNO R. FITIAL
Governor

/s/HERMAN S. SABLAM
Director of Procurement and Supply

Nation

White House prepared to meet one-on-one with Iran

By MATTHEW DALY
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The White House says it is prepared to talk one-on-one with Iran to find a diplomatic settlement to the impasse over Tehran's reported pursuit of nuclear weapons, but there's no agreement now to meet.

National Security Council spokesman Tommy Vietor said

Saturday that President Barack Obama has made clear that he will prevent Iran from getting a nuclear weapon and will do whatever's necessary to prevent that from happening. Vietor said Iran must come in line with its obligations, or else face increased pressure.

"The onus is on the Iranians to do so, otherwise they will continue to face crippling sanctions and increased pressure," Vietor

said in a statement. He noted that efforts to get Iran back to the table with the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council and Germany—the so-called "P5+1"—continue.

Iran has been a recurring issue in the presidential election campaign and Vietor's statement was released shortly after The New York Times reported Saturday that the U.S. and Iran have agreed in principle for the first time to ne-

gotiations. The paper said Iran has insisted the talks wait until after the Nov. 6 election.

Vietor, however, denied that any such agreement had been reached.

"It's not true that the United States and Iran have agreed to one-on-one talks or any meeting after the American elections," he said. We continue to work with the P5+1 on a diplomatic solution and have said from the

outset that we that we would be prepared to meet bilaterally."

Obama and Republican presidential candidate Mitt Romney will meet Monday night in a debate focusing on foreign policy and Iran's nuclear ambitions will likely be a topic. Obama has said he'll prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. He hopes sanctions alongside negotiations can get Iran to halt uranium enrichment. But the strategy, which began during President George W. Bush's ad-

ministration, hasn't worked yet. Obama holds out the threat of military action as a last resort. Romney has accused Obama of being weak on Iran and says the U.S. needs to present a greater military threat.

Despite unprecedented global penalties, Iran's nuclear program is advancing as it continues to defy international pressure, including four rounds of sanctions from the U.N. Security Council, to prove that its atomic intentions are peaceful.

Enough already: Voters hit with ads, calls, more

RICHMOND, Va. (AP)—People who live in battleground states tend to have a number and a coping strategy.

Virginian Catherine Caughey's number is four: Her family recently got four political phone calls in the space of five minutes.

Ohioan Charles Montague's coping mechanism is his TV remote. He pushes the mute button whenever a campaign ad comes on.

All the attention that the presidential campaigns are funneling into a small number of hard-fought states comes at a personal price for many voters.

The phone rings during a favorite TV show. Traffic snarls when a candidate comes to town. A campaign volunteer turns up on the doorstep during dinner. Bills get buried in a stack of campaign fliers. TV ads spew out mostly negative vibes.

The effects are cumulative.

"It's just too much," says Carmen Medina, of Chester, Va. "It's becoming a little too overwhelming."

Medina, it should be noted, is an enthusiastic supporter of Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney. She squealed with joy outside the United Latino Market in Richmond when she learned that Romney had just appeared at a rally across the street.

But she's starting to block phone numbers to Make The Calls. Stop.

Even Ann Romney, the candidate's wife, has had enough. "I don't want to get myself upset so I am not watching television for the moment," she told the women on ABC's "The View" on Thursday.

"Trust me, the audience



In this photo taken Oct. 19, 2012, Jean Gianfagna displays some of the political mailers her family receives at her home in Westlake, Ohio.

members that are in swing states are sick of them," she said of political ads.

Ditto the president.

"If you're sick of hearing me approve this message, believe me, so am I," Barack Obama said during the Democratic National Convention.

The parties speak with pride of their massive ground operations—the door knockers, the phone banks, the campaign signs and more. They trumpet the higher level of activity this year than in 2008.

With the campaign now focused on just nine states—Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and Wisconsin—the parties are able to target their resources narrowly.

Republicans say they've made

three times more phone calls and 23 times more door knocks in Ohio than they had by this time in 2008, for example, and nearly six times more phone calls and 11 times more door knocks in Virginia. Democrats don't give out that level of detail, but describe ambitious outreach activities from their 60-plus field offices in Virginia and 125 in Ohio.

The campaigns and independent groups supporting them are expected to pour about \$1.1 billion into TV ads this year, the vast majority of it in the most competitive states.

The political mailers sometimes come four at a time for Jean Gianfagna of Westlake, Ohio, who says her husband and two grown kids all get their own copies of the same mailer.

But does all of this activity

reach a point of diminishing returns? Is there a risk of overkill?

Not to David Betras, chairman of the Democratic Party in Ohio's Mahoning County. He considers himself a field general in the battle to re-elect Obama, and enthusiastically details the party's efforts on his turf.

"Is there a saturation point? I haven't heard that," he says. "I think just the opposite. I think people, at least in my neck of the woods, are kind of excited that they're playing such an important role."

But he does say, "Some people you call and of course they're burned out with it, and you thank them very much and you move on."

Clearly, more exposure doesn't always translate into more support.

The hospital denies the lawsuit's allegations, and said in a written statement that Jaylen arrived at the hospital after suffering full cardiac arrest for 25 minutes and doctors treated him for "an extended period of time" before declaring him dead.

"Despite extensive resuscitative efforts, Jaylen did not immediately regain a pulse and no heart activity was noted for several hours," the hospital said. "... While this is a very rare occurrence, extensive resuscitation efforts, medication and young age can result in a patient's heart function returning spontaneously. We hope for continued strength for Jaylen."

At Friday's news conference,

Their lawyers said that because of the ongoing lawsuit, they would not be releasing details about the boy's disabilities and condition.

According to the couple, Jaylen was taken to Mercy Hospital and pronounced dead on Feb. 18 after his mother found him unresponsive.

They say Jaylen's eyes continued to flick open, but that they were told that the lingering effects of medicine were causing that to happen.

"We're not doctors, so we just went along with what they told us," Dorsey said.

So family members began to plan a funeral for the boy.

But when other relatives arrived at the hospital, they gasped when they saw Jaylen's eyes opening, the boy's father said.

The lawsuit says the family had to demand that medical staff conduct more tests and that a cardiac ultrasound finally showed the boy's heart was beating.

His parents are seeking \$200,000 in damages. The lawsuit says they suffered hours of "severe emotional distress."

ACROSS THE NATION

Calif. family shot; body found in hunt for gunman

INGLEWOOD, Calif. (AP)—Police found a body late Saturday in a backyard bungalow belonging to a masked gunman who is accused of setting the residence on fire before shooting five members of a Southern California family, killing a father and his 4-year-old son. An autopsy will determine whether the

body is that of Desmond John Moses, 55, who investigators believe went on the early morning shooting rampage over a dispute with the victims, who live on the same property in front of him, Inglewood Police Lt. James Manda said. A manhunt for Moses will continue until the body is identified, he added. Investigators believed Moses wore a dark cap and a white painter's mask when he entered the family's

home around 4 a.m. and fired 10 times.

Pregnant NYC woman found slain day before wedding

NEW YORK (AP)—A woman who was eight months pregnant was found stabbed to death Saturday in her apartment, the day before her wedding, police said. Vindalee Smith, 38, was found on the floor of her apartment

in the East Flatbush section of Brooklyn with a gaping wound in her neck. It wasn't clear how long she'd been dead before the body was discovered by her landlord. Her unborn child did not survive. There was no sign of forced entry, and no weapon was recovered, police said. Investigators are looking for a possible suspect. They interviewed her friends and family, and spoke to her fiance.

2 off-duty Fla. officers fatally shoot naked woman

TAMPA, Fla. (AP)—Two off-duty Florida law-enforcement officers fatally shot an armed, naked woman who confronted them at a social gathering Saturday, authorities said. The shooting occurred at about 1:15 p.m. Saturday in Hernando County, north of Tampa. The county sheriff's office said in a news

release that the men were approached by an "armed, naked and irrational female." The news release does not identify the weapon, but it says "one or both of the law enforcement officers fired their weapons, striking the female." She died at the scene. Both officers have been placed on administrative leave as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement investigates the shooting in the Spring Hill community.

Asia

US aircraft carrier cruises disputed Asian seas

By CHRIS BRUMMITT
ASSOCIATED PRESS

ON BOARD THE USS GEORGE WASHINGTON (AP)—A U.S. aircraft carrier group cruised through the disputed South China Sea on Saturday in a show of American power in waters that are fast becoming a focal point of Washington's strategic rivalry with Beijing.

Vietnamese security and government officials were flown onto the nuclear-powered USS George Washington ship, underlining the burgeoning military relationship between the former enemies. A small number of journalists were also invited to witness the display of maritime might in the oil-rich waters, which are home to islands disputed between China and the other smaller Asian nations facing the sea.

The visit will likely reassure Vietnam and the Philippines of American support but could annoy China, whose growing economic and naval strength is leading to a greater assertiveness in pressing its claims there. The United States is building closer economic and military alliances with Vietnam and other nations in the region as part of a "pivot" away from the Middle East to Asia, a shift

Philippines gets second saint: teen martyr Pedro Calungsod

VATICAN CITY (AP)—The Philippines is getting its second saint with the canonization of the 17th century teen martyr Pedro Calungsod.

Pope Benedict XVI will canonize Calungsod on Sunday morning along with six other Catholics, some of them missionaries like the devout boy from central Cebu province.

Filipino Vice President Jejomar Binay arrived in the Italian capital last week to head the government delegation to the ceremony in St. Peter's Square, saying the canonization was particularly important to the Philippines, Asia's largest predominantly Roman Catholic country.

Many Filipino faithful are particularly devoted to Calungsod, who as a teenager went with some Spanish Jesuit missionaries to Guam in 1668 to convert the Chamorros natives.

Thousands of Filipinos celebrated Calungsod's sainthood with masses, processions, stage plays, religious shows and the launching of postal stamps bearing his image and a map of his journey as a young Catholic missionary to the Pacific islands, where he was killed while spreading his faith more than 300 years ago.

in large part meant to counter rising Chinese influence.

The Vietnamese officials took photos of F-18 fighter jets taking off and landing on the ship's 1,000-foot- (305-meter-) long flight deck, met the captain and toured the hulking ship, which has more than 5,000 sailors on board.

The mission came a day after Beijing staged military exercises near islands in the nearby East China Sea it disputes with U.S. ally Japan. Those tensions have flared in recent days.

China claims nearly all of the South China Sea, where the U.S. says it has a national interest in ensuring freedom of navigation in an area crossed by vital shipping lanes. Vietnam, the Philippines and several other Asian nations also claim parts of the sea. The disputes attracted little international interest until the late 1990s, when surveys indicated possible large oil reserves. American rivalry with China has given the disputes an extra dimension in recent years.

The U.S. Navy regularly patrols the Asia-Pacific region, conducting joint exercises with its allies and training in the strategic region. The trip by the George Washington off the coast of Vietnam is its third in as many years. A second aircraft

carrier, the USS John C. Stennis, has also conducted operations in the western Pacific region recently, according to the U.S. Pacific Fleet.

Capt. Gregory Fenton said the mission was aimed in part at improving relations with Vietnam and ensuring the U.S. had free passage in the South China Sea.

AP
F/A-18 Super Hornets are seen on the deck of the nuclear-powered USS George Washington (CVN73) off southern coast of Vietnam in South China Sea Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012.



Message of Appreciation

We the family of

†Joselyn Tara Mafnas Sablan

Lovingly known as "Jos"

Would like to extend our most heartfelt appreciation to our relatives and friends who surrounded us with their love, prayers, kindness and support.

Your thoughtful gesture and kind words have consoled our hearts beyond our expectation in such difficult times. Your presence at the nightly mass and rosary and most especial at the Mass of Christian Burial was very comforting.

We will always remember you in our hearts and prayers.

"May God Bless You All"

Thank you very much and Si Yu'us Ma'ase.

From Joseph and Rosa Sablan,
Children and Family



World

Lebanese are on edge after car bomb is linked to Syria

BEIRUT (AP)—Lebanese protesters erected flaming roadblocks and gunmen roamed the streets Saturday in a city on edge after the assassination of a top security official in a powerful car bomb the prime minister linked to the civil war in neighboring Syria.

The crisis raised a terrifying specter for Lebanese who fear their country could easily plunge back into cycles of violence and reprisal that have haunted it for decades.

Friday's blast in the heart of Beirut's Christian area killed eight people, including the country's intelligence chief, Brig. Gen. Wissam al-Hassan. It was the deadliest bombing in Beirut in four years, shattering the country's uneasy calm.

The government declared a national day of mourning for the victims Saturday, but protesters burned tires and set up roadblocks in anger.

Sharbal Abdo, who lives in the neighborhood where the bomb went off, brought his 6-year-old son, Chris, and 12-year-old daughter, Jane, to see the destruction Saturday.

"They were very afraid yesterday," he said. "They need to face this situation. It may be their future."

Lebanese Prime Minister Najib Mikati on Saturday linked the bombing to al-Hassan's high-profile investigation this summer that uncovered what authorities called a plot by Syria to provoke chaos in Lebanon with bombings and assassinations.

"I don't want to prejudge the investigation, but in fact we cannot separate yesterday's crime from the revelation of the explosions that could have happened," Mikati said at a news conference following an emergency Cabinet meeting.



A family walks past flaming tires used as a roadblock to protest the death of Brig. Gen. Wissam al-Hassan, head of the intelligence division of Lebanon's domestic security forces in a car bomb attack targeting his convoy, in the southern port city of Sidon, Lebanon, Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012.

one of Assad's highest aides.

Mikati, who opponents believe is too close to Syria and the Shiite militant group Hezbollah, offered to resign after the bombing, but was asked by President Michel Suleiman to stay.

Al-Hassan's probe led to the arrest of former Information Minister Michel Samaha, one of Assad's most loyal allies in Lebanon. Samaha, who is in custody, is accused of plotting a wave of attacks in Lebanon at Syria's behest. Indicted in absentia in the August sweep was Syrian Brig. Gen. Ali Mamlouk,

For much of the past 30 years, Lebanese have lived under Syrian military and political domination.

Damascus' hold on Lebanon began to slip in 2005, when former Prime Minister Rafik Hariri was assassinated in truck bomb along Beirut's Mediterranean waterfront. Syria denied having any

role. But broad public outrage in Lebanon forced Syria to withdraw its troops from the country.

The killings of anti-Syrian figures continued for years, however, and Assad has managed to maintain his influence in Lebanon through Hezbollah and other allies.

Now, as the Syrian civil war rages just across the border, Lebanon increasingly is getting sucked in.

Mikati said Saturday he had offered to resign after Friday's car bomb, but said Suleiman asked him not to plunge the country into more uncertainty.

The bombing raised fears that the crisis could unleash Lebanon's sectarian tensions, a dire scenario for a country that endured a devastating civil war of its own from 1975-1990.

U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon spoke Saturday with Suleiman and stressed the importance of "dissociating the country from regional events" and in Lebanon's sovereignty, a U.N. spokesman said.

The Syrian unrest has already inflamed tensions here. Many of Lebanon's Sunni Muslims have backed Syria's mainly Sunni rebels, while Shiite Mus-

Libyan turmoil persists year after Gadhafi death

TRIPOLI, Libya (AP)—On the anniversary of the capture and killing of Moammar Gadhafi, Libya is still grappling with the legacy of his four decades of rule as the interim government and the dictator's former spokesman engaged in a war of words amid the ongoing chaos.

The Libyan government said Saturday that its forces had detained Gadhafi's high profile spokesman Moussa Ibrahim, but an online recording from a man purporting to be Ibrahim denied that claim and said he wasn't even in the country.

The conflicting reports, neither of which could be independently verified, reflect the turmoil that has persisted over the past year, leaving the oil-rich North African nation deeply divided. Tensions have spiked as rival forces battle over the city of Bani Walid.

Bani Walid, some 140 kilometers (90 miles) southeast of Tripoli, was the last major city in Libya to fall to the uprising,

thanks in part to its protected location in a valley near the mountains. Over the past year, it has seen periodic violence and emerged as the most significant town in Libya still resisting the country's new authorities since Gadhafi was slain near his hometown of Sirte last year.

"We've lost too many people in Bani Walid and we are still losing them so I don't think it's time for a celebration," said Abdessalem Mahfoud, a local neighborhood council member in Tripoli, when asked about the anniversary of Gadhafi's death.

The turmoil in Libya, which overthrew Gadhafi last year with the help of NATO airstrikes, has become a campaign issue in the U.S. presidential race after an attack on the U.S. consulate in the eastern city of Benghazi killed Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans.

For many who fought against Gadhafi, the new Libya cannot be born until the last vestiges

of the old regime, fugitives like Ibrahim and towns like Bani Walid, have been routed.

"I don't think things are really moving in the right direction until we finish with Bani Walid because it is stopping us from making a new Libya," said Abdel-Basit al-Mzirig, a former deputy justice minister and now on Libya's human rights council.

A statement from the prime minister office said that Ibrahim was caught at a checkpoint outside Bani Walid while trying to flee a recent uptick in fighting over the town and would be taken to Tripoli for questioning.

However, the government produced no proof of its claim and hours later, Ibrahim had not been seen in public. State television did briefly show a photograph of a man in a hospital bed with a bandaged shoulder which they labeled as the former spokesman, but the veracity of the photo could also not be confirmed.

WORLD BRIEFS

UN envoy presses for Syria cease-fire in Damascus

BEIRUT (AP)—The international envoy to the Syria conflict pressed his call for a cease-fire with Syrian officials during a visit to Damascus on Saturday while violence continued throughout the country unabated. Lakhdar Brahimi, who represents the U.N. and the Arab League, has appealed for a truce between rebels and President Bashar Assad's forces for the four-day Muslim holiday of Eid al-Adha, which begins Oct. 26. Brahimi arrived in Damascus Friday after a tour of Middle East capitals to drum up support for the ceasefire, which he hopes will pave the way for a longer-term truce. A range of countries including Iran, Iraq, Turkey and Germany have thrown their support behind the idea, but neither the Syrian government nor the rebels have signed on. Brahimi met Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem on Saturday and was expected to

hold talks Assad on Sunday.

France 24 TV: Cairo reporter 'savagely attacked'

PARIS (AP)—A correspondent for France 24 TV was "savagely attacked" near Cairo's Tahrir Square after being seized by a crowd, the network said Saturday. It was the latest case of violence against women at the epicenter of Egypt's restive protests. The news channel said in a statement that Sonia Dridi was attacked around 10:30 p.m. Friday after a live broadcast on a protest at the square and was later rescued by a colleague and other witnesses. France 24 did not give further details about the attack, but it said its employees were safe and sound, though "extremely shocked," and that it will file suit against unspecified assailants. The network, which receives state funds but has editorial independence, said it and the French Embassy were working to bring Dridi back to France. "More frightened than hurt," wrote

lims have tended to back Assad. Al-Hassan was a Sunni whose stances were widely seen to oppose Syria and Hezbollah.

Hundreds of Sunni protesters marched in force through downtown Beirut Saturday, placing the blame squarely on Syria and Hezbollah for al-Hassan's killing.

"Hezbollah is a terrorist group!" they shouted.

Police were trying to identify the bombers and find out how they managed to target al-Hassan, an important security figure who traveled under great protection and who likely took more precautions following Samaha's arrest.

"We don't expect to reveal the crime within few hours," police commander Maj. Gen. Ashraf Rifi told Future TV. "The investigation is like a puzzle. You collect the pieces and put them together in a logical way."

Al-Hassan had many potential enemies.

Besides his investigation of Samaha, al-Hassan helped investigate the 2005 assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri, a powerful Sunni figure. An international tribunal indicted four members of Hezbollah for Hariri's killing, although the group denies involvement.

His department also had a role in breaking up several Israeli spy rings inside Lebanon in recent years, Lebanese officials said.

Al-Hassan, 47, who was married with two children, is expected to be buried Sunday next to Hariri's tomb in downtown Beirut. His family arrived in Lebanon on Saturday on a private plane from Paris, where they live.

Dridi in French on her Twitter page Saturday.

Soyuz craft readied for space station mission

BAIKONUR, Kazakhstan (AP)—A Russian-made Soyuz rocket was erected into place Sunday, ahead of the start of a mission to take a three-man crew to the International Space Station. For the first time since 1984, the manned launch will take place from Baikonur cosmodrome launch pad 31, while the pad that is normally used, from which Yury Gagarin began his landmark space mission, is undergoing modernization. NASA's Kevin Ford and Russian astronauts Oleg Novitsky and Yevgeny Tarelkin will blast off Tuesday from the Russian-leased facility in southern Kazakhstan and will spend around six months on the orbiting laboratory. They will join U.S. astronaut Sunita Williams, Russia's Yuri Malenchenko and Aki Hoshida of Japan's JAXA agency.

Health & Fitness

Meningitis victims face long, uncertain recovery

By TAMARA LUSH
ASSOCIATED PRESS

OCALA, Florida (AP)—Vilinda York lies in her Florida hospital bed, facing a dry-erase board that lists in green marker her name, her four doctors and a smiley face.

Also on the board is this: "Anticipated date of discharge: NOT YET DETERMINED."

The 64-year-old contracted fungal meningitis after receiving three tainted steroid shots in her back. She's one of 284 people nationwide who are victims of an outbreak that began when a Massachusetts compounding pharmacy shipped contaminated medication. Twenty-three people have died.

Like many trying to recover, York, who has been hospitalized since Sept. 27, faces a long and uncertain road. Many people have died days or even weeks after being hospitalized. Fungal meningitis—which is not contagious—is a tenacious disease that can be treated only with powerful drugs.

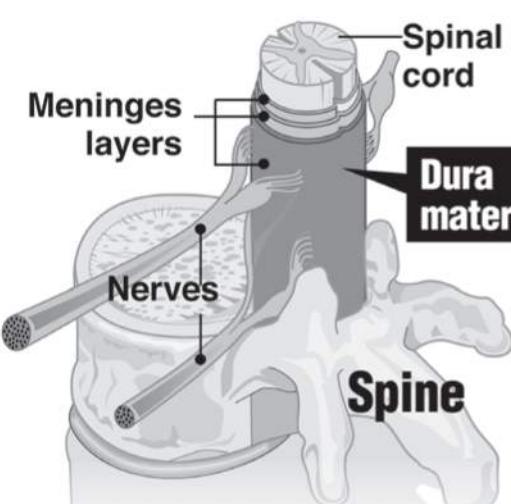
"I'm determined I'm going to fight this thing," she said. "The devil is not going to win."

Dr. William Schaffner, an infectious disease specialist who chairs Vanderbilt University's Department of Preventive Medicine, said the treatment includes intravenous anti-fungal medicines that are tricky to use.

"These are powerful drugs. They're toxic," he said. "You're walking a tightrope because you want to get enough into a patient to have the therapeutic effect while at the same time you're trying not to affect, or to minimize the effect on the liver and

Fungal meningitis

Fungal meningitis cannot be transmitted from person to person. The infections are associated with a potentially contaminated medication injected into the body.



- Fungus attacks dura mater, one of the layers of the meninges membranes covering brain and spinal column; for diagnosis, blood or fluid is taken near spinal cord

Source: U.S. Centers for Disease Control

Symptoms

- New, worsening headache
- Fever
- Sensitivity to light
- Stiff neck
- Weakness in part of body
- Slurred speech
- Pain, redness, swelling at injection site

Waiting game

- Can take weeks for symptoms to show

Treatment

- Long courses of high-dose antifungal medication

© 2012 MCT

kidneys."

Even after leaving the hospital, patients will continue antifungal drugs for weeks or months, he said.

The infectious disease doctor handling York's case did not immediately respond to a phone message.

When York talks about the last six weeks, tears run down her cheeks. She knows the disease is deadly. And if she needed a reminder, it's right there in the headline from a local newspaper:

per on her hospital bed: "Third death reported in Marion County from fungal meningitis."

For York, 2012 started well. The retired clothing shop clerk and widow from Illinois was doing water aerobics three times a week, tending to her flower garden and spending time with church friends. They'd get together at Olive Garden and Red Lobster restaurants a couple of times a week and go to church every Sunday.

On Jan. 21, she was on her

way to a wedding when she got into a car crash. It wasn't enough to put her in the hospital, but she did suffer back problems.

The pain was strong enough for her to visit a doctor at Marion Pain Clinic, where she received two steroid shots on Aug. 16. A week later, the pain was still there and she began feeling headache, nauseous and dizzy. She chalked it up to her back and got a third shot Aug. 28.

In the weeks that followed, her health deteriorated. She

Earlier puberty seen in boys, just like in girls

CHICAGO (AP)—When it comes to the birds and the bees, some parents may want to have that talk with their boys a little sooner than they expected.

Researchers have found signs of puberty in American boys up to two years earlier than previously reported—age 9 on average for blacks, 10 for whites and Hispanics. Other studies have suggested that girls, too, are entering puberty younger.

Why is this happening? Theories range from higher levels of obesity and inactivity to chemicals in food and water, all of which might interfere with normal hormone production. But those are just theories, and they remain unproven.

Doctors say earlier puberty is not necessarily cause for concern. And some experts question whether the trend is even real.

Dr. William Adelman, an adolescent medicine specialist in the Baltimore area, says

the new research is the first to find early, strong physical evidence that boys are maturing earlier. But he added that the study still isn't proof and said it raises a lot of questions.

Earlier research based on 20-year-old national data also suggested a trend toward early puberty in boys, but it was based on less rigorous information. The new study involved testes measurements in more than 4,000 boys. Enlargement of testes is generally the earliest sign of puberty in boys.

The study was published online Saturday in Pediatrics to coincide with the American Academy of Pediatrics' national conference in New Orleans.

Dr. Neerav Desai, an adolescent medicine specialist at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, said he's seen a subtle trend toward slightly earlier puberty in boys. He said it's important for parents and doc-

tors to be aware so they can help children emotionally prepare for the changes that come with puberty.

Doctors generally consider puberty early if it begins before age 8 in girls and before age 9 in boys.

Boys are more likely than girls to have an underlying physical cause for early puberty. But it's likely that most, if not all, of the boys in the study were free of any conditions that might explain the results, said lead author Marcia Herman-Giddens, a researcher at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill.

Problems such as thyroid abnormalities and brain tumors have been linked to early puberty. But boys with chronic medical conditions or who were using medicines that could affect puberty were excluded from the research.

In girls, early puberty has been linked with increased

chances for developing breast cancer, but whether it poses health risks for boys is uncertain. Some scientists think early testes development may increase the risk for testicular cancer, but a recent research analysis found no such link.

"If it's true that boys are starting puberty younger, it's not clear that means anything negative or has any implications for long-term," said Adelman, a member of the American Academy of Pediatrics' committee on adolescence.

For the new study, researchers recruited pediatricians in 41 states who participate in the academy's office-based research network. Doctors asked parents and boys aged 6 to 16 to take part during regular checkups. The visits took place between 2005 and 2010.

Half of the boys were white. The rest were almost evenly divided among blacks and Hispanics.

OUTBREAK TOLL

An outbreak of fungal meningitis has been linked to steroid shots for back pain. The medication, made by a specialty pharmacy in Massachusetts, has been recalled.

Latest numbers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:

ILLNESSES: 284, including three joint infections.

DEATHS: 23

STATES: 16; Florida, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee, Texas and Virginia.

tal, doctors took a spinal tap and discovered she had meningitis.

Health officials have noticed that the sickest patients with meningitis are those who either did not catch the symptoms early or who didn't receive appropriate treatment early because doctors didn't know what they were dealing with. The fungi become harder to kill once they have established themselves in a person's body.

"If treatment is given early, it is very effective," said Dr. David Reagan, medical officer for Tennessee, where the outbreak was first detected. "If it is given late, it is not very effective."

Most of the positively identified cases are caused by Exserohilum rostratum (ex-sir-oh-HY-lum ross-TRAH-tum). The fungus is commonly found in the environment, but it has never before been observed as a cause of meningitis.

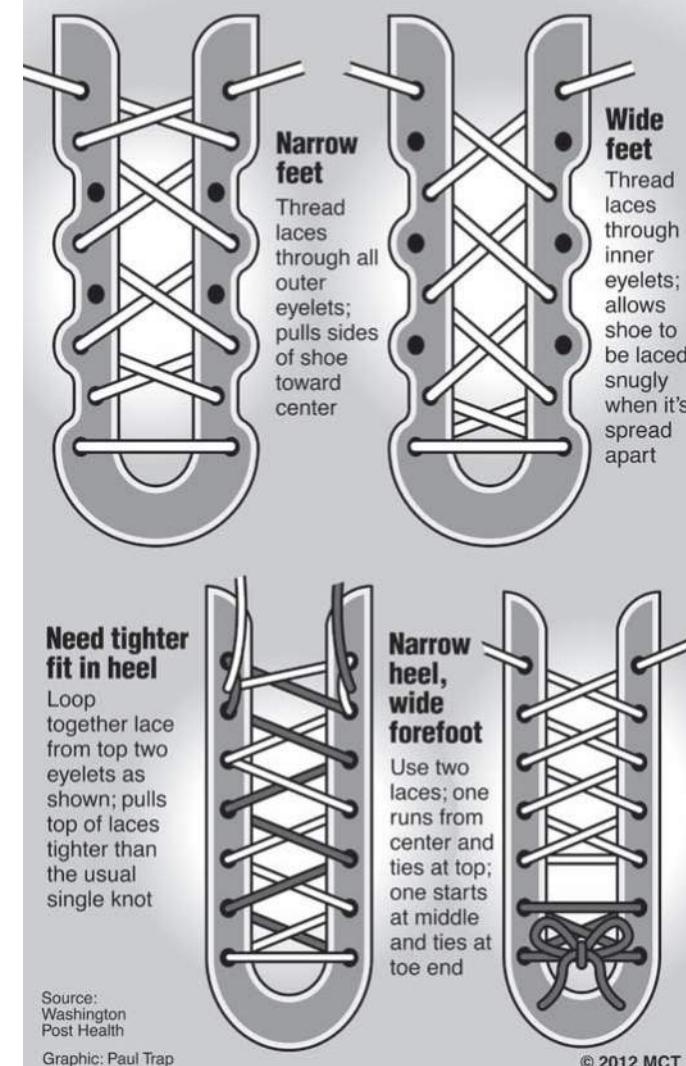
Because of that, Reagan said, officials have been unable to firmly establish the incubation period and give those who received the tainted injections a date for when they will no longer need to worry about developing meningitis.

"We're saying at least six weeks, or 42 days, but we probably will extend that," he said. "This is new territory. There's no literature to tell us how long."

Personal Trainer

Lacing shoes to improve their fit

Many people have trouble finding athletic shoes that fit well, but sometimes lacing the shoe differently is the solution.



Source: Washington Post Health
Graphic: Paul Trap

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Life & Style

Sting moves venue of Philippine concert

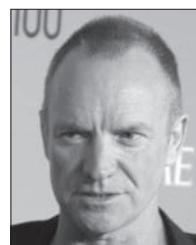
MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Sting has moved the location of his “Back to Bass Tour” concert in the Philippines following a petition by environmentalists who said the original venue is owned by a conglomerate that plans to uproot 182 trees for a parking lot and mall expansion in a northern mountain city.

The SM Mall of Asia Arena said on Saturday that changing the site of the Dec. 9 concert was “the decision of the artist himself.”

“Understandably, the known environment advocate artist was left with no choice in spite of the SM representatives’ appeal,” it said in a statement.

SM Prime Holdings, which operates SM malls and the arena on Manila Bay, is owned by the Philippines’ richest man, mall mogul Henry Sy.

Environmentalists said in their petition that as a champion



Sting

of the environment, “Sting can’t be saving rainforests and enabling SM to rape the environment at the same time!”

Sting and his wife Trudie Styler established The Rainforest Foundation in 1989

to protect tropical rainforests and the people who live there.

Arena business manager Arnel Gonzales told The Associated Press that the venue became “collateral damage” in the environmentalists’ campaign.

“With this successful move to stop Sting from holding the concert at SM MOA Arena, and referring to the venue as an ‘oppressor,’ it is now looking more like the court battle has extended from saving trees, to ruining a corporate giant’s reputation completely,” the arena said in

its statement.

A local court has temporarily stopped the mall expansion plans in northern Baguio city.

Karlo Marko Altomonte, who initiated the petition, wrote Sting’s foundation saying that removing the trees would significantly increase air pollution and the risk of landslides and flooding in an area near schools.

“Thank you, Sting, for helping us defend our environment, our heritage, our home,” he wrote on his Facebook page.

Male nude posters plaster Vienna, draw complaints

VIENNA (AP)—Naked men of all sizes and shapes are appearing on Vienna kiosks as a prestigious museum kicks off an exhibit of male nudity.

But outside the exhibition, organizers are being forced into cover-up mode after a storm of complaints that the ad posters are offensive.

In a show titled “Nude Men from 1800 to Today,” the Leopold Museum opened its doors Friday to examine how artists have dealt with the theme of male nudity over the centuries.

“Mr. Big”—a four-meter (more than 12-foot) high full-frontal photo mounted on plywood and depicting a naked young man in an indolent sprawl—is set up near the show’s entrance, lest there be any doubt what visitors are about to see.

Inside, around 300 art works are on display—including the controversial photograph that is raising the ire of Viennese. Created by French artists Pierre & Gilles, “Vive La France” shows three young, athletic men of different races wearing nothing but blue, white and red socks and soccer shoes.

No visitors were complaining Friday as they filed past that photo and even more graphic examples of male nudity, including some depicted in sex acts.

“I’ve seen worse on late-night TV,” said Franz Steiner, 27, as he left the show.

Not so in the city. Posters of the three men were given impromptu fig-leaves—lines



In this picture taken Oct. 18, 2012 a cyclist passes a poster showing three naked men which has had red tape added to cover the sensitive parts of the three men, in Vienna, Austria. Poster reads: “Naked Men.”

of red tape covering their private parts.

The complaints clearly caught the museum by surprise. Vienna’s turn-of-the-century decadence allowed erotic artists such as Egon Schiele and Gustav Klimt to flourish, and has turned these days into com-

placent acceptance of displays of the flesh. Today, lingerie ads are racy and one popular daily paper regularly features pictures of half-naked women.

Vienna’s public transport system reacted laconically earlier this week to reports that a young woman on a downtown subway

line was dressed in nothing but knee-high boots.

“We know that everyone has a different temperature comfort zone,” the agency said in a statement. “But we do not think that our subways are so warm that one has to get undressed.”

But there seems to be less tolerance for shows of male nudity. Museum officials say they received a flood of complaints by last week, mostly from outlying districts heavily populated by new immigrants from Muslim countries.

Museum director Tobias Natter says the flap serves to point out “that nobody gets offended by naked women, but with naked men: yes.”

A poster near a school was also removed when parents complained.

“I can understand women with children who think that this is too wild, when the kids keep asking questions,” said Susanne Eigner, a woman her 20s standing next to a still-uncovered poster.

But other reactions were positive.

“I like that we get to see naked men for a change,” said Veronika Kren, as she paused from pushing her bike laden with groceries. “We have to look at naked women all the time and now I find it quite interesting to see something different—and especially the reaction of the men.”

The museum is making the most of the controversy. Natter says he hopes the poster will spark lively debate.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A lawyer for Britney Spears’ father told jurors Friday that the singer’s family went to heroic efforts to save her during a well-chronicled public meltdown that included shaving her head and other bizarre behavior.

Spears’ father, Jamie, went to great lengths, attorney Leon Gladstone said during opening statements in the trial over a lawsuit Spears’ former manager has brought against Spears and her parents.

Sam Lutfi is seeking millions of dollars from Spears and her family, claiming a book her mother wrote lied about him drugging and isolating the pop superstar. He is also seeking a portion of Spears’ profits from her recording career, claiming he was a key player in her 2007 album “Blackout” and had the right to serve as her manager for years.

The case is the culmination of years of acrimony between Lutfi and Spears’ family and conservators, who successfully obtained a restraining order against him to keep him from contacting the singer or trying to intervene in her life.

Gladstone told jurors that Spears’ life began to spiral out of control after a painful breakup with childhood sweetheart Justin Timberlake. He said Jamie Spears worked tirelessly to rescue his daughter from drug addiction, mental illness and the hold that Lutfi had on her during that time.

Gladstone told of Jamie Spears’ going to the hospital where his daughter was in a psychiatric ward, staying up with her all night and trying to bring her back to normalcy.

He told of another day when Jamie Spears rushed to a hospital, where he found Britney strapped to a gurney, screaming and yelling. “She is completely unhinged. He stays with her, walking the floor. He is scared

out of his mind. He’s thinking, ‘My daughter has lost everything.’”

The attorney said Jamie Spears expected to turn on the TV one day and learn that his daughter had died.

During this period, Gladstone said, Lutfi was of no help. Jamie Spears confronted Lutfi in the kitchen of Britney’s house and told him “leave my daughter alone, get out of our lives.”

“And at that point Jamie touched Lutfi. For that, Jamie is being sued for battery,” Gladstone said. He said Lutfi was not hurt and was out that night with Britney.

Gladstone added that when Jamie Spears went to court and asked for conservatorship of his daughter, it was immediately granted and remains in effect.

During his opening statement on Thursday, Lutfi’s lawyer said his client never took advantage of Spears. Lutfi was trying to help Spears, attorney Joseph Schleimer told jurors, but he lost control as her behavior became more troublesome and she was eventually hospitalized and put under a court-ordered conservatorship.

The move for a restraining order against Lutfi by Jamie Spears came after months of erratic behavior by his daughter, including shaving her head, speaking in a British accent, attacking a car with an umbrella and other bizarre incidents. She also lost custody of her two sons with ex-husband Kevin Federline during that time.

Jurors aren’t expected to hear from Spears during the trial. She remains under the conservatorship, which is overseen by a judge who has ordered her not to appear for trial or a deposition.

She has since made a remarkable comeback and is a judge on the Fox television show “The X-Factor.”

Colorado fans upset with Madonna over guns in show

DENVER (AP)—Some Colorado fans are upset after music superstar Madonna used guns during a performance in a community that is still raw from a mass shooting at a movie theater during a “Batman” screening.

Madonna’s second act at her show Thursday night at the Pepsi Center in Denver featured the 54-year-old singer using a fake gun to shoot a masked gunman and images of blood splattering on a large screen behind the

stage. She used the set for her performances in other cities for the song “Gang Bang,” which includes the lyrics “shot my lover in the head.”

The scene reminded some concert-goers of the July 20 shooting at an Aurora theater where a gunman dressed in black and wearing a helmet, body armor and a gas mask stepped through a side door and opened fire with a semi-automatic rifle and pistols, killing 12 people and injuring at least

another 58, some of whom may be disabled for life.

“We’re dancing and all of a sudden people started realizing what the song was,” said concert-goer Aaron Fransua, 25, who was in section 120. “We all just stood there. Everybody who was around me all had shock on their face. I heard a lot of ‘wows,’” Fransua said.

Mile High Sports Radio Denver personality Peter Burns, who was in another section, said the people around him be-

gan murmuring when the song came on.

“You could see people kinda looking at each other,” Burns said. “I heard the word ‘Colorado,’ you know, ‘Aurora,’ ‘shooting.’ You could hear people talking about it and it was little bit unsettling. I saw two or three people get up and grab their stuff and actually leave their seats.”

Burns was friends with Jessica Ghawi, 24, who died in the shooting.

Jessica Biel, Justin Timberlake marry in Italy

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel got married.

"It's great to be married, the

ceremony was beautiful and it was so special to be surrounded by our family and friends," the couple said in a statement

Tom Hanks lets obscenity slip on television

NEW YORK (AP)—ABC and Tom Hanks are apologizing after the actor let slip a swear word during a live appearance on "Good Morning America."

Hanks telegraphed his "f-bomb" during an interview Friday. Anchor Elizabeth Vargas had asked him to speak in his character's British accent in the movie "Cloud Atlas." Hanks said that it was "mostly swear words," but Vargas told

him to go ahead anyway.

He began speaking in a mumble but the obscenity was clearly audible. ABC removed it for subsequent feeds of the show in the Midwest and West.

Vargas quickly said, "We are so sorry, 'Good Morning America.'" Hanks also apologized—and said he'd probably have a seven-second delay next time he's on the show.

Luxembourg royals tie knot in religious ceremony

LUXEMBOURG (AP)—Under a canopy of soldiers' drawn swords as church bells tolled, Prince Guillaume of Luxembourg and Belgian Countess Stephanie de Lannoy emerged smiling Saturday from the tiny duchy's Notre Dame Cathedral after wrapping up a two-day wedding gala with a religious ceremony.

Onlookers and well-wishers lined the super-scrubbed streets near the cathedral and roared with joy as the newlyweds looked down from a red velvet-covered palace balcony, and haltingly—but deeply—kissed for the crowd.

The church wedding of Prince Guillaume—the 30-year-old heir to the throne and Luxembourg's grand duke-to-be—and the Belgian countess drew top-drawer guest list. It came a day after a civil ceremony at Luxembourg City Hall.

The bearded groom and his 28-year-old blonde bride were trailed by a procession of well-known royals, including Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, Princess Victoria and Prince Daniel of Sweden, Prince Naruhito of Japan, and Britain's Prince Edward—Queen Elizabeth's youngest child—and his wife, Sophie.

Stephanie plans to renounce her Belgian citizenship in order to—one day—become Luxembourg's grand duchess. The tiny country wedged between France, Belgium and Germany is an important financial center and continues to prosper despite Europe's economic trouble.

Stephanie wore a lace Elie Saab dress with a 5-meter-long wedding train during the ceremony, which was conducted in a mixture of French, German and Luxembourgish. It began with a minute's silence to honor her late

mother, Countess Alix de Lannoy.

For the wedding banquet attended by 800 people, Bocuse d'Or-winning chef Lea Linster—herself from Luxembourg—whipped up a buffet medley including Riesling-marinated pork and veal pate, lobster in gelee consomme, and sea bass in salted crust and thyme stuffing; dessert included Madeline cakes, choux a la creme pastries, and creme brulee.

Later in the evening, the royal couple walked through town, shaking hands with well-wishers before a fireworks show. Afterward, they drove off in



AP
Luxembourg's Prince Guillaume and Countess Stephanie wave from the balcony of the Royal Palace after their wedding in Luxembourg, Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012.

a limousine with a sign on the back that read "Just Married" in Luxembourgish.

The nuptials gave tiny Luxembourg—a founding member of the predecessor of the European Union—a rare moment in the international media spotlight. With a population of just over 500,000, the trilingual duchy punches above its weight: Besides being an important financial center, it's home to the world's largest steel manufacturer and it boasts the second-highest gross domestic product per capita in the world, more than \$80,000.

released Friday to People magazine.

Biel spokeswoman Meredith O'Sullivan Wasson confirmed the report.

The 31-year-old Timberlake and 30-year-old Biel were wed in southern Italy. The couple got engaged in December after dat-

ing for several years.

Timberlake, who has been acting more than singing lately, stars in the Clint Eastwood baseball film, "The Trouble with the Curve." Biel stars in the remake of "Total Recall." She can next be seen in "Hitchcock."



AP
This May 3, 2010 file photo shows actress Jessica Biel and actor-singer Justin Timberlake at the Metropolitan Museum of Art Costume Institute gala in New York.

Horror author King shocks Canadian students

BANGOR, Maine (AP)—Horror-master Stephen King made a surprise, pre-Halloween visit to a Canadian high school, shocking some of the students when he turned up.

King, who lives in Maine, spoke Friday to students at the high school in Sussex, New Brunswick, following a year-long campaign to get the author to visit the school by Halloween 2012, according to the Bangor Daily News.

The author of books such as "The Stand" and "The Shining"

gathered with 18 students in the school's library to provide feedback on their writing. He then spoke to 80 students in the auditorium about his experience as a high school teacher and the inspiration for his novels.

Matthew Beyer, a 12th-grade student who shook King's hand, told the Kings County Record in Sussex he thought "it was absolutely insane" that King showed up. Beyer says "It was quite a shock" when students walked into the library and Stephen King was standing there.

An excited Drake: 'I got my high school diploma'

NEW YORK (AP)—A day after earning his high school diploma, an excited Drake performed hit songs for a few hundred people at an event for Tyra Banks.

The 25-year-old told the crowd Thursday night that he took a small break from music and "spent some time going back to high school."

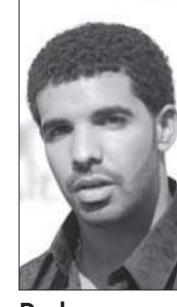
"I got my high school diploma," he said with excitement as the crowd roared.

Drake also posted on Twitter late Wednesday that he earned a 97 percent on his final exam and an 88 percent in his last class through work with a private tutor. The Canadian dropped out

The Grammy-nominated musician performed hits like "Best I Ever Had," "Find Your Love" and "The Motto" at Banks' first annual Flawsome Ball for The Tyra Banks TZONE Foundation, her organization aimed at developing confidence in girls.

He dedicated his song "Make Me Proud" to the supermodel.

Rosario Dawson, Clay Aiken and Estelle also attended the gala event in New York at Capitale.



Drake

Unpleasant mother-in-law should be politely ignored

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: When my husband and I married, I thought I had hit the jackpot in mothers-in-law. We were becoming friends, going shopping together, etc. Boy, was I wrong. Now, five years later, I can't stand her. Just 15 minutes with her sends me over the edge. She's rude, judgmental, and gossips like a teenager about everyone.

She put together a cookbook for me filled with my husband's favorite recipes. Guess what? After trying half a dozen of them and failing at every one, I realized she had changed and added or omitted certain ingredients in every single one. When I asked about it, she told me she just wanted her son to prefer her cooking over mine.

Then there was the time she was baby-sitting and took our son to see Santa Claus for the very first time without asking or telling us. That's an event parents want to be part of. I found out about it months later when I looked through her scrapbook.

I'm not sure of her motives, but she has something against me. My husband is on my side 100 percent when it comes to his mother. He can't stand to be around her either. What is the appropriate way to handle her? She makes us want to move away.

READY TO PACK IN OHIO

DEAR READY TO PACK: It isn't necessary to move away to distance yourselves from people like your mother-in-law. Limit the time you spend with her. When you must see her, be careful not to say anything negative about anyone or give her sensitive information you don't want shared. If you want to prepare a special food for your husband, go online and find recipes that haven't been "doctored." You'll find plenty of them. Then let him rave about your cooking.

As for the incident with Santa, remember that your son was so young he probably has no memory of it. Many little children are frightened by big strangers in red suits, which is why smart parents don't force the exposure. And now that you know what poor judgment your mother-in-law has, make other arrangements for a sitter when you need one.

But don't cut her off. However she managed it, she created the wonderful husband with whom you are blessed.

DEAR ABBY: I am a divorced father of two children, one in college and the other in high school. I have reached a point in life where I can take trips and make time for me. I am well-educated and earn an above-average income. I'm in decent shape and considered a "catch" by many of the single women I encounter. But most of the women in my age bracket (mid-40s) or slightly younger no longer take care of themselves.

I'm looking for a very attractive woman to accompany me through life. Most single men I know also put a premium on a woman's appearance. Why don't women understand this? Where would you suggest finding a suitable partner for someone in my situation?

MR. PARTICULAR IN TUCSON

DEAR MR. PARTICULAR: Start at the nearest gym. If that doesn't net you what you're trolling for, another place to look would be the Playboy Mansion in Los Angeles. He throws large parties there, many of which are charity fundraisers. Who knows? For a generous donation you might meet a woman who meets your high standards—providing you have enough assets of your own to merit her interest.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes



By Bill Waterson

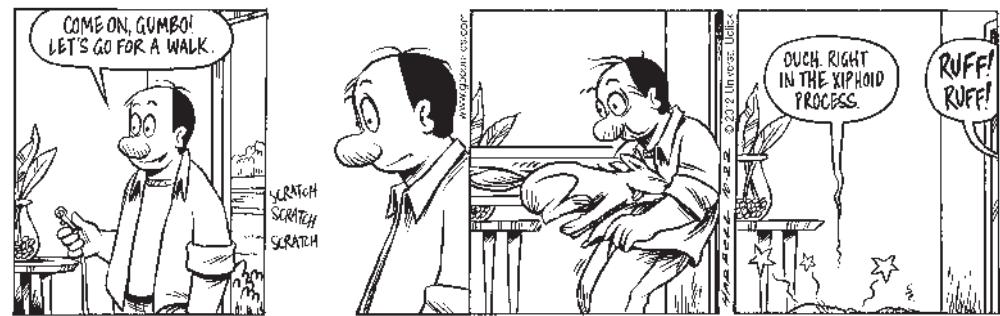


Garfield®

By Jim Davis



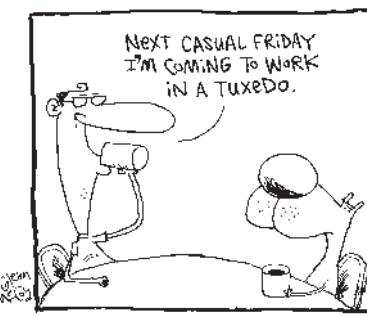
Adam@home



By Bryan Basset

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS	32	Brown	50	Obama,	10	Dermatologist's
1	Innocent	or	before he	became	case	"Piggies"
5	Unhappy	Sheen	pres.	11	13	Pinnacle
8	Lovers'	34	Darling	Shrill	19	Little
12	quarrel	35	Swindle	bark	lamb's	lamb's
16	Nautical	36	Chicago,	owner	owner	owner
17	hanger-	the —	the —	37	Eng.	30
21	on	City	City	Dig up	Sopping	Sopping
24	Not	38	39	40	Guitarist	Guitarist
25	pizzicato	Trigo-	nometry	Trigo-	Clapton	Clapton
26	Barbe-	nometry	ratio	Opponents	Plate	Plate
27	cue	(Abbr.)	(Abbr.)	Opponents	Comic bit	Comic bit
28	fuel	41	Cons'	Opponents	(Var.)	(Var.)
29	Tarzan's	42	Opponents	Opponents	Gathers	Gathers
30	trans-	Entranc-	Opponents	Opponents	Divisible	Divisible
31	portation	ing	Opponents	Opponents	by two	by two
32	Qty.	47	Relaxa-	Opponents	Highway	Highway
33	Pictures	48	tion	Opponents	29	— and
34	20	Coffee	Learned	Opponents	proper	proper
35	Chunk of	liqueur	one	Opponents	31	Kind of
36	cheese	49	Overly	Opponents	wit	wit
37	23	Sight	proper	Opponents	33	Mistreats
38	Read	organs	one	Opponents	34	Unnerve
39	bar			Opponents	36	Apple
40	codes			Opponents	Duel tool	Duel tool
41	24			Opponents	38	MRI fore-
42	A Great			Opponents	runner	runner
43	Lake			Opponents	39	Firetruck
44	Hire, as			Opponents	necessity	necessity
45	a boat			Opponents	40	James of
46	25			Opponents	"Brian's	"Brian's
47	“the			Opponents	Song"	Song"
48	season			Opponents	43	Hasten
49	to be			Opponents	44	Rage
50	jolly”			Opponents	45	Zero
51	Word			Opponents	46	Space

Solution time: 24 mins.



Saturday's answer 10-22

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Zac Hanson, 27; Jesse Tyler Ferguson, 37; Jeff Goldblum, 60; Catherine Deneuve, 69.

Happy Birthday: Put more effort into your home, surroundings and your relationships with the people you love most. Sort out any issues that pertain to your personal finances or your health and wellness. Positive changes will happen if you exercise your rights and creative plans for the future. Honesty and integrity coupled with practicality will win in the end. Your numbers are 3, 11, 15, 22, 26, 32, 40.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Innovative ideas coupled with striving to project what you have to offer using the element of surprise will capture attention and bring you acknowledgment. Speed, accuracy and cutting-edge motions will separate you from any competition you face. ★★★★

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Problems with a client, colleague or personal partner will incur knowledge that hasn't been shared. Don't make a judgment call until you have all the facts. You have more to gain if you wait to see what everyone else does first. ★★

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Make a change that will help resolve a pending problem. A partnership will help determine which path is best for you. A change will lift your spirits and help clear your mind. Don't let a personal matter stop you from doing what's best. ★★★★★

CANCER (June 21-July 22): Don't get emotional over money matters; do something about your situation. Be creative, put some thought into how you can utilize your

skills to conjure up greater income or what you can sell or manipulate in your portfolio to double your intake. ★★★

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Problems at home or with someone you must deal with will develop. Honesty regarding your feelings and what you want to do will be necessary if you're making a change that will affect the people you live or associate with. ★★★

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Emotional mind games will lead you astray. Ask questions, and be specific with your responses to avoid mishaps or arguments. A change at home may not be to your liking, but give whatever has transpired a chance before you reject what's happening. ★★★

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Speak up, share your ideas and you'll find ways to improve your situation at home and at work. Picking up knowledge that will open your eyes to every possible option will help you move on in a direction that suits your needs. ★★★★★

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): Listen carefully to what's being said and you get a good idea regarding the outcome of a situation that has been emotionally difficult. Distance yourself from negative individuals, and focus on a creative project that you find stimulating. ★★

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Tread carefully when it comes to money matters. Not everyone will follow through with suggested plans. Keep your contribution simple, cost-efficient and easy to follow through with on your own if everyone around you bails. Avoid excess. ★★★

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Discuss your plans with people you feel have something worthwhile to add. Your dedication and determination will outweigh any negative force that tries to stand in your way. Don't be daunted by someone who makes a last-minute change. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional confusion can lead to poor choices financially or medically. Find out your options and seek expert advice before you make a decision that can influence your future. Stick close to home and avoid anyone who meddles. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Focus on

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD
IN ASTROLOGYCOPRIGHT 2007
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Discuss your plans with people you feel have something worthwhile to add. Your dedication and determination will outweigh any negative force that tries to stand in your way. Don't be daunted by someone who makes a last-minute change. ★★★

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Emotional confusion can lead to poor choices financially or medically. Find out your options and seek expert advice before you make a decision that can influence your future. Stick close to home and avoid anyone who meddles. ★★★

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Focus on making money, not giving it away. A residential move or renovations will be a good investment. Partnerships will make your life easier. Love and romance are highlighted. Mixing business with pleasure will pay off. Travel with caution. ★★★

Birthday Baby: You are observant, dedicated and true to your beliefs.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green

4		2					
3	1	5	6				
8	7	3	9				
4	9	5	3	1	7		
2	6			5	4	3	
7	9						
2	8	7	5	2	3	6	8
1	6	2	3	7	5	9	4

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's SUDOKU Answer

1	7	3	8	4	9	6	2	5
4	8	6	2	7	5	1	9	3
2	9	5	3	1	6	4	8	7
3	1	9	5	8	7	2	4	6
8	6	4	1	2	3	7	5	9
5	2	7	9	6	4	8	3	1
9	4	1	7	5	2	3	6	8
7	3	2	6	9	8	5	1	4
6	5	8	4	3	1	9	7	2

Difficulty Level ★★★★

10/22

WONDERWORD

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

JAY COCHRANE, WIRE WALKER

Solution: 11 letters

J	C	F	A	L	L	S	R	S	R	E	T	E	M	W
A	A	L	A	R	C	H	E	L	E	T	A	R	H	F
W	N	Y	E	M	A	F	M	I	L	E	S	I	R	K
D	A	I	C	G	O	P	M	V	Y	S	T	E	E	L
R	D	N	I	O	E	U	U	E	T	E	C	R	A	O
O	I	G	R	W										

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ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

COMMONWEALTH UTILITES CORPORATION, Plaintiff,	CIVIL ACTION NO. 12-0196
v-	SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION
LESLIE GOTZWALD, Defendant.	

TO THE ABOVE-NAMED DEFENDANT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy which is served upon you hereby, within twenty-one (21) days after the fourth publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of our answer to THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC, the Plaintiff's attorneys, whose address is Post Office Box 5222, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan. It may be prepared and signed for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment by default may be taken against you for the relief demanded in the Complaint.

DATED, this 27th day of September, 2012
by order of the Court:

/s/ Clerk of Court

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DATED, this 27th day of September, 2012

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WHATZIT?
Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

5
1 2 3 4

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Red Sox to hire John Farrell as manager



BOSTON
(AP)—The

Red Sox reportedly have reached an agreement to bring Toronto Blue Jays manager John Farrell to Boston to replace Bobby Valentine.

Red Sox spokeswoman Pam Kenn said early Sunday the team had no announcement to make. Comcast SportsNet New England reported that the deal was agreed to.

Boston had been talking to the Blue Jays about compensation for Farrell, who had one year remaining in his Toronto contract. He was 154-170 in two seasons with the Blue Jays.

Farrell was the Red Sox pitching coach for four years before he left for Toronto after 2010. Boston expressed interest in having Farrell take over for Terry Francona after the team's September collapse in 2011 but the Blue Jays would not allow him to leave them.

The Red Sox have also interviewed San Diego Padres special assistant Brad Ausmus, New York Yankees bench coach Tony Pena, Los Angeles Dodgers third base coach Tim Wallach and Baltimore Orioles third base coach DeMarlo Hale to replace Bobby Valentine, who was fired after one dismal season.

General manager Ben Cher-



AP

In this Oct. 1, 2012 file photo, Toronto Blue Jays manager John Farrell, right, argues a call with home plate umpire Marvin Hudson during the 10th inning of a baseball game against the Minnesota Twins in Toronto.

ington has said he wants a shorter search this year than the one that resulted in Valentine replacing Francona last Dec. 1. That was 64 days after Boston's

last game and 62 after Francona was let go.

The Red Sox fired Valentine the day after finishing in last place in the AL East with a

69-93 record that was the franchise's worst since 1965. They were four games behind Farrell's fourth-place Blue Jays, who were 73-89. In Farrell's

other season with Toronto, his first as a major league manager, he posted an 81-81 record and another fourth-place finish.

The Red Sox starters had sub-par seasons, especially Jon Lester and Josh Beckett, who was traded to the Dodgers on Aug. 25. Beckett was 5-11 with a 5.23 ERA at the time of the trade. Lester finished the season at 9-14 with a 4.82 ERA, both the worst in his seven-year career.

Farrell helped Lester and

Clay Buchholz become productive pitchers and is familiar with several Red Sox veterans and minor leaguers.

He also has worked with members of Boston's front office. As Cleveland's director of player development from November 2001 to the end of the 2006 season, he worked with current Boston assistant general manager Mike Hazen, who held scouting and player development positions with the Indians from 2001-05.

Cardinals forced to make another trip out West

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—The Giants sure are tough to eliminate this postseason.

Barry Zito and the Giants gave themselves at least one more game in the NL championship series with a 5-0 victory Friday in St. Louis that forced Sunday's Game 6 back at AT&T Park.

Just where the NL West winners want to be with their season on the line - in front of the raucous, orange towel-waving sellout crowd.

"It's great to be back in San Francisco. There is no tomorrow," Giants right fielder Hunter Pence said. "It's a unique feeling. It has brought the best out of us."

The wild-card Cardinals traveled out West again for a trip they certainly hoped they wouldn't have to make. Defending champion St. Louis leads the best-of-seven series 3-2, needing one more win for a World Series return.

St. Louis knows how hard winning the last one can be considering what this Giants team already did during these playoffs: winning three straight on the road at Cincinnati in the division series after falling behind 2-0.

"They've been doing this all year. Obviously, the Cincinnati series, here come the Giants," Cardinals third baseman David Freese said. "It's good for TV but it's disappointing in (our) sense."

Game 2 winner Ryan Vogelsong starts for the Giants for the

second time this series against Chris Carpenter, who lost that matchup at San Francisco on Monday.

"No question, we want to win it as soon as we can. We wanted to do it last night," Carpenter said Saturday. "But, again, we have to get one win before they get two. We'll do whatever we can. If it's not tomorrow night we'll come in and do it again."

While the Cardinals took a day to rest—Carpenter and a couple of pitchers did play some catch—Pence and most of his team showed up at the ballpark in late afternoon to hit and work out even though manager Bruce Bochy gave his players the day off.

With Vogelsong on the mound, the Giants have to like their chances to push the series to a Game 7.

Vogelsong became the first Giants starter to make it through six innings this postseason when he went seven strong innings in a 7-1 Game 2 victory. He allowed four hits and one run for his first career postseason win.

"We all kind of feel like we've been in this situation before with Cincinnati," Vogelsong said. "And it's not over until the last out. I think both teams that are playing right now have proved that in the first round."

Giants general manager Brian Sabean wasn't surprised to see his team on the field Saturday for an optional practice—realizing full well players didn't want to risk losing any momentum

from the night before.

"Sometimes you wonder how much at this stage that there is a home-field advantage," Sabean said. "In some cases, because of the bullpens, it's probably as much as whoever gets the lead and can hold off the other ballclub from scoring will win the ballgame. We know what's at stake. We know that they're going to put a game against us. I'm sure Vogey will be ready."

St. Louis postseason ace Carpenter was looking forward to another chance, too.

He has been plenty reliable this time of year for the Cardinals, with his 10 postseason victories the most in franchise history. His stuff never felt right the last time out against the Giants, when he allowed two earned runs, five in all, and six hits in four innings.

"It doesn't matter if you're on the road, what game it is, it's the first one to win four games, and hopefully we can do that tomorrow," Carpenter said.

The 37-year-old Carpenter pitched two clinchers last October and went 4-0. He won the division series clincher and did it again in Game 7 of the World Series against the Texas Rangers.

So, why not add that NLCS distinction to his impressive October resume?

It's already been a memorable month for Carpenter, who came back to make three starts—throwing just 17 innings—late in the regular season after a

complicated operation that removed a rib and two neck muscles to relieve numbness on his right side.

He is counting on commanding his fastball better this time out. His postseason ERA in two outings this year is 1.86.

"The last time out my stuff went backwards a little bit," Carpenter said. "I was trying everything I could to get outs but unfortunately it didn't work. I had some nice work in between that start and this start, I feel good and I'm looking forward to getting back out there."

The Giants returned to the Bay Area as soon as they could to get ready for Game 6, flying home overnight and landing at 2:30 a.m. But the Cardinals still had to go home after Friday night's game and pack their bags. They slept in their own beds and took off from St. Louis at midday Central time.

San Francisco, which made an improbable run to the 2010 World Series title, hopes to send St. Louis out of town empty-handed. The Giants won the NLCS in five games at their waterfront ballpark against the Cardinals in 2002 before falling short in a seven-game Series to the wild-card Angels.

The Detroit Tigers are waiting on their opponent after a four-game ALCS sweep of the New York Yankees.

Not that Bochy or Cardinals manager Mike Matheny can even think that far in advance, just yet.

Arizona obtained Pennington and minor league infielder Yordi Cabrera from Oakland for Young and cash, then sent Cabrera to the Miami Marlins for Bell. The Marlins will pay \$8 million of the remaining \$21 million Bell is owed.

Earlier in the day, Arizona exercised a \$6.5 million option on closer J.J. Putz.

The 35-year-old Bell has 151 saves the past four seasons. He signed a \$27 million, three-year contract with Miami last offseason but lost his closer's job in July. He finished with 19 saves in 27 chances and a 5.09 ERA in 73 games.

After failing to contend in the first season of their new ballpark, the Marlins traded former NL batting champion Hanley Ramirez to the Los Angeles Dodgers in July and sent pitcher Anibal Sanchez and infielder Omar Infante to the Detroit Tigers.

Young, Arizona's center fielder for six seasons, was the odd man out in a crowded outfield with the team expecting young Adam Eaton, called up from Triple-A Reno late this season, to play center and be the Diamondbacks' leadoff hitter. But Towers said the job is automatically Eaton's. Gerardo Parra and A.J. Pollock also will compete for the spot.

Bell dealt to D-backs; Young to Oakland

PHOENIX (AP)—Heath Bell became the latest player jettisoned by the Miami Marlins when he was dealt Saturday to the Arizona Diamondbacks, who also acquired infielder Cliff Pennington from the Oakland Athletics for outfielder Chris Young.

Arizona obtained Pennington and minor league infielder Yordi Cabrera from Oakland for Young and cash, then sent Cabrera to the Miami Marlins for Bell. The Marlins will pay \$8 million of the remaining \$21 million Bell is owed.

Bell contract calls for \$9 million in each of the next two seasons and includes a \$9 million club option for 2015. Miami will pay \$1.5 million next year, \$3.5 million in 2014 and the \$3 million deferred signing bonus he is owed.

Young, Arizona's center fielder for six seasons, was the odd man out in a crowded outfield with the team expecting young Adam Eaton, called up from Triple-A Reno late this season, to play center and be the Diamondbacks' leadoff hitter. But Towers said the job is automatically Eaton's. Gerardo Parra and A.J. Pollock also will compete for the spot.

LeBron dismisses Lakers speculation

MIAMI (AP)—Could LeBron James be taking his talents to the Lakers?

An ESPN.com report suggested that teams such as the Lakers have begun thinking about the next time James can become a free agent. The reigning NBA MVP can opt out of his contract with the Miami Heat after the 2013-14 season.

James wants part of such talk. "I'm here, and this is what it's all about," James told reporters Thursday. "I'm preparing for this season, preparing to defend our title and that's it. This is where ... I'm here now."

James, Dwyane Wade and Chris Bosh each signed contracts in 2010 that allows them to opt out after the 2013-14 season or stay with the Heat for two more seasons.

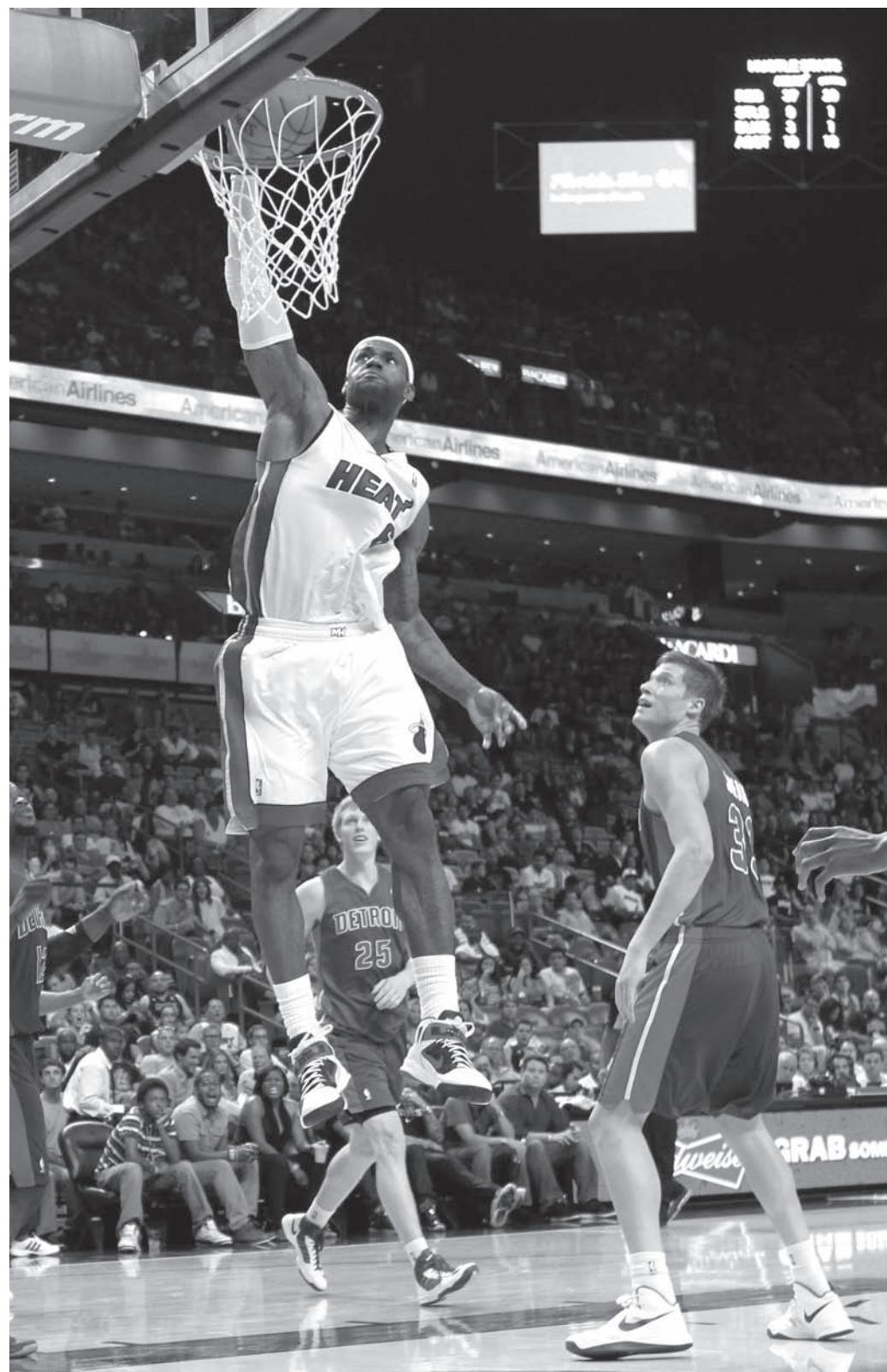
ESPN.com cited multiple NBA executives who believe the Lakers could have salary-cap space to offer a maximum deal should Kobe Bryant retire when his contract ends in two years. Bryant has said that's his plan.

"That story, I don't know where it came from, but I understand why it came up because of who I am—it's going to happen," James told reporters. "But I'm not going to worry about it. I've got to continue to stay focused with these guys and make sure we're ready for any challenges that come."

Meanwhile, Rashard Lewis scored 11 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter and the Miami Heat rallied for a 104-101 pre-season win against the San Antonio Spurs on Saturday.

The Heat played without James, who was out with "general soreness," according to coach Erik Spoelstra.

Josh Harrelson's 3-pointer with 1:01 remaining put the Heat ahead for good at 102-99. Harrelson finished with



Miami Heat's LeBron James (6) scores as Detroit Pistons' Jonas Jerebko (33) looks on during the half of a pre-season NBA basketball game in Miami, Thursday, Oct. 18, 2012. The Heat won, 105-78.

Love, Furyk tied for lead at Sea Island

ST. SIMONS ISLAND, Ga. (AP)—Jim Furyk was ready to close the book on a year filled with bitter moments. He wasn't expecting one more chapter.

Despite playing limited golf in the three weeks following yet another disappointment in the Ryder Cup, Furyk put together three solid days in the McGladrey Classic and ran off four early birdies Saturday that gave him a 4-under 66 and a share of the lead with Ryder Cup captain Davis Love III.

Love has played every week since the Ryder Cup, and the 48-year-old tournament host was at his best on a gorgeous afternoon at Sea Island. With birdies on both the par 5s and a 15-foot birdie putt on the 18th hole, he matched Furyk with a 66 and joined him in the lead at 13-under 197.

This is the last official event of the year for Furyk, who had said earlier in the week that even

a win at the McGladrey Classic would not erase memories of his failure to hold leads at the U.S. Open in June, the Bridgestone Invitational in August, and a 1-up lead over Sergio Garcia with two holes to play in the Ryder Cup.

I'm tougher on myself—I promise—than anyone else is," Furyk said. "So I've kicked myself 100 times already. And I've gotten over it. I can put it behind me and move. There's nothing I can do to change it.

And nothing I do in the future is going to change it. ... I'm excited for this season to be over, only for the fact that I can turn the page and we can start talking about the future."

Suddenly, there's one more day left in his season.

Furyk only came up to Sea Island out of respect to Love, a longtime friend. His expectations were moderate at best. Turns out

his game is still pretty sharp.

He rolled in a 45-foot birdie putt over a ridge on the second hole and made three more birdies in the opening six holes, finishing with a hard 7-iron to a tucked pin that settled 10 feet away on the par-3 sixth.

Furyk failed to birdie the par 5s, and he had to settle for eight straight pars at the end that allowed more players into contention for the final round.

Love started slowly, badly misjudging a putt from short of the green that ran some 10 feet by the cup on the fourth hole. He answered with an 18-foot birdie putt, and kept chipping away until catching Furyk on the final hole.

They were at 13-under 197, two shots clear of Arjun Atwal (69) and D.J. Trahan (66), two players who could avoid a return to Q-school with a big week at Sea Island.

Ryder Cup captains typically are chosen toward the end of their careers, and Love last won a tournament four years ago at Disney. He dealt with a neck injury at the start of the year, and split duties when he was healthy promoting the Ryder Cup. The last American to win after being Ryder Cup captain was Tom Watson in 1996.

On the opening day at Medinah, Love had 45 minutes to turn in Saturday's Ryder Cup pairings, and 30 minutes to decide whether to play in Las Vegas the following week. He met both deadlines, and has been playing every week since Europe rallied to win the cup.

"I can separate a lot of things, separate the Ryder Cup with its own experience," Love said. "People were surprised I played the three weeks after, but I'd had some time off. I was ready to play. I haven't played enough tournaments, so it's nice to be

10 points.

The Spurs had one last chance but Cory Joseph's 3-point attempt bounced off the rim. Danny Green led San Antonio with 17 points.

Dwyane Wade scored 13 for Miami and sat out most of the second half.

Gary Neal made a 3-pointer with 3:00 remaining in the

third to give San Antonio an 84-74 lead.

Spurs star Tim Duncan finished with 15 points and six rebounds while playing only in the first and third quarters.

Mike Miller hit all three of his 3-point attempts in the second quarter to help Miami build its biggest lead of the first half at 57-46.

Howard to make Lakers debut versus Kings

EL SEGUNDO, Calif. (AP)—The Los Angeles Lakers have targeted Sunday's pre-season game against the Sacramento Kings for Dwight Howard to make his debut.

Barring any complications with Howard's back over the next couple days, the Lakers are optimistic the All-Star center will make their first appearance for them on Sunday.

Dwight Howard has so far been confined to cheering on the Lakers in the pre-season. He is making progress," one Lakers source said. "There is a good chance he can play Sunday."

Howard has been sidelined since having surgery in April to repair a herniated disk. He's not expected to play against the Kings on Friday in Las Vegas. The Lakers would like Howard to play in two of their three remaining pre-season games after Friday, sources said. But they're hesitant to play him in both games of a back-to-back Wednesday and Thursday.

Howard hasn't had any setbacks in practices since training camp began. If he has another strong workout on Saturday, team doctors are expected to clear him to play Sunday.

"I'll be a little nervous out there for the first time, but [Nash] said he would help me through it and hopefully it will be OK," Howard told reporters after Thursday's practice.

Meanwhile, the Lakers waived forward Reeves Nelson and center Ronnie Aguilar, trimming their training camp roster to 18 players.

The Lakers made the moves Saturday, a day after a loss to Sacramento dropped them to 0-5 in the pre-season.

Nelson played parts of three seasons at UCLA, making the all-conference first team in 2011 as the Bruins' leading scorer and rebounder. But UCLA coach Ben Howland dismissed Nelson from the team in December 2011 following a series of suspensions and benchings.

Nelson played briefly in Lithuania before going unselected in last June's NBA draft. He played on the Lakers' summer league team and earned an invitation to training camp.

back in the swing of things."

This is the second time this year that Love had a share of the 54-hole lead. He was tied in Memphis and finished two shots behind.

Furyk, like most golfers, has spent a career coping with failure. He figures that to win one tournament a year for 25 years was a sure ticket to greatness, yet that also would mean losing some two dozen times a year.

That's why he doesn't see Sunday as another chance to fail—especially after a year like this—but another chance to win. It might have helped that his expectations were not as high as they usually are. He has been relaxed all week, and sees no reason to change that for the final round.

"If I looked at tomorrow as another chance to be judged in case I failed ... you know, it's been a tough year, but I could never look at it that way," Furyk said. "It's an opportunity for me to go out and win a golf tournament, and I'm not trying to

make up for the rest of the year. What happened, happened. It's over with. I can't change it. I'm never going to feel good about what happened, but it's done with.

"It's opportunity tomorrow to win a golf tournament. That's the way I'm going to look at it."

The opportunity is not theirs alone.

Remember, a year ago Ben Crane rallied from five shots behind Sunday to win in a play-off over Webb Simpson, and 18 players were separated by five shots going into the final round, where the weather again is expected to be mild and sunny.

That group includes Bud Cauley, who was three shots behind after a 68. Crane, who worried about making the cut when he walked off the course Friday, wound up making it on the number and then tied the course record with a 62 to get into the group four shots behind, along with Charles Howell III. Vijay Singh, Chad Campbell and David Toms were in the group at 8-under 202.

RMS Spartan Rebels clinch championship

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The RMS Spartan Rebels edged the CTSI Logistics' Hoops, 41-38, in the finals of Tan Holdings 40th Anniversary Sports Fest Open Basketball Tournament last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

The champion team is composed of Edwin Camacho, Ham Hambros, Ben Lisua, Frank Mettao, Omar Nawas, Ray Norita, Trevor Ogunmoro, and Rodney Sacramento.

RMS advanced into the finals



◀ The RMS Spartan Rebels and Hoops pose for a group photo during the awards ceremony for the Tan Holdings 40th Anniversary Sports Festival Open Basketball Tournament last Friday at the Gillette Multipurpose Gymnasium.

WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

first after breezing past Century Hotel, 41-25, while CTSI sweated it out against Chambre Bar, 38-34, to get the second fi-

nals ticket.

In the one-game finale, Trevor Ogunmoro got his game working right away, as he tallied 10

points in the first half to lift RMS to a 28-19 lead. Sixth man Rodney Sacramento also made contributions to RMS just be-

baseball, and my mother, Ana, who is always there to support me," the Saipan Major League Baseball president added.

Igitol was selected for her commitment and promotion of baseball in the CNMI, especially her "Hail Mary" work on the CNMI Baseball Team. She scrambled for funds to help send the Commonwealth sluggers to the 2011 Pacific Games in New Caledonia in the last minute and the CNMI bets went on to take the gold medal in the competition after beating rival Guam in the finals.

In local competitions, Igitol organized leagues both for the youth and adult players and her continued involvement in the development of baseball in the region earned her a seat to the Executive Committee of the Basketball Confederation of Oceania last year. She is the first female to be selected in the prestigious group.

"This award inspires me to continue doing volunteer works in sports, especially in baseball," added Igitol, who would like to share the award to her husband, Tony Rogolifoi.

"He is my pillar and he shows

as much dedication as I have in promoting baseball in the CNMI," Igitol said.

Rogolifoi was also among the nominees in the 4th Annual Pacific Sports Awards, as he vied for the Coach of the Year award. The CNMI had four other nominees in the event with tennis' Rafael Jones nominated for the Outstanding Junior Athlete of the Year, baseball's Joshua Jones and athletics' Yvonne Bennett for the Male and Female Outstanding Athletes of the Year, and the CNMI Baseball Team for the Team of the Year.

1,335 in six games, 33 pinfalls ahead of the host city's Adrian Charles Dragon.

The youngest bowler on the six-man Saipan delegation finished ahead of two Tamuning, Guam bets—Jay Leon Guerrero (sixth/1,281) and JD Castro (seventh, 1,269). Raphael's fourth place finish duplicated Saipan's best performance in the annual competition. Raphael's brother, Ruselle, totaled 1,279 pinfalls in the 25th Asian Intercity Bowling Championship in Singapore

last year, missing the podium by only five pinfalls.

Ruselle returned to the same tournament and this time was ranked at No. 13 after gaining 1,239 pinfalls. Ruselle had an explosive start in the singles event with his 277 pinfalls—the best score in the field in Game 1—and also recorded 200-plus pinfalls in the last two games (216 and 214) to go with his 156, 181, and 195.

Simon Manacop was also on the squad and was Saipan's second best finisher, tying

Castro at the No. 7 spot. Manacop's highest score was made in Game 6 (244) and he had two more 200-plus pinfalls (207 in Game 3 and 233 in Game 6).

Completing Saipan Bowling Association's roster was Robert Talavera, who finished at the No. 61 spot with his 985 pinfalls, while Bernard Paraiso and Ariel Dumapit, who represented the guest team Capitol Hill, collected 992 and 888, respectively, and were ranked at No. 59 and 65.

Meanwhile, dethroned champion KFC settled for the third place trophy after beating Zhaila's All-Stars in the consolation game, 75-66.

Ralph Francisco led KFC with his 19 points and was later selected to the Mythical Team, joining Zhaila's Jason Bahillo, Cadiang, Palacios, and Diaz.

First Game

KFC/Taco Bell 75 – R. Francisco 19, Fernando 15, Factor 9, Maranan 7, Tinio 6, M. Francisco 5, Lee 2.

Zhaila's All-Starz 66 – Brian 20, Ja. Bahillo 16, Hernandez 10, Tudela 6, Mostales 4.

Scoring by quarters: 21-14, 43-34, 62-50, 75-66.

Second Game

Gualo Rai/Pacific Star 79 – Jose 25, Estolas 24, Diaz 9, Lauron 9, Babauta 6, Galzote 2.

Brgy. San Antonio 76 – Ne. Salem 16, Aranda 13, Cadiang 12, De Guzman 8, Villanueva 8, Alegre 7, Palacios 4.

Scoring by quarters: 28-22, 42-43, 65-58, 79-76.

fore intermission, while Walter Mendoza and Maverick Itibus led CTSI with 5 markers apiece.

Ogunmoro nailed a three-pointer at the start of the second half to put his team in prime position to take the win, and soon after Sacramento and Ham Hambros obliged with a pair of buckets to clinch the top prize.

Ogunmoro's 13 points led all scorers, while Itibus and JR Barrios had 9 each for CTSI.

In the battle for third place, Chambre Bar slipped past Century Hotel, 40-38.

Leo Galarse paced Chambre in the consolation match, scoring 14 points.

The Top 4 teams went on to

win sporting goods gift certificates in sums of \$400, \$300, \$200 and \$100, accordingly.

Tan Holdings put on the event, free of charge, in celebration of its 40 years of doing business in the region. Other components of the sports festival included a mountain bike race and a youth baseball tournament with soccer and bowling on queue.

Rebels 41 – Ogunmoro 13, Sacramento 9, Hambros 8, Lisua 2, Camacho 5, Norita 4.

Hoops 38 – Itibus 9, Barrios 9, Mendoza 5, Lee 4, Manibuan 4, Fital 2, Sablan 2.

Scoring by halves: 28-19, 41-38.

ended up leaving the court the same way it arrived—with only one measly basket to its name through 10 minutes of work.

Ongelungel played heads and shoulders above her competition as her 20 points matched Kagman's total points:

In last Wednesday's lone game, Glorily Williams' six markers in the first quarter paced a five-member scoring band of the Lady Dolphins, who carved out a 16-10 margin.

MHS then pulled away at midpoint, 41-21, and never looked back, as Rachel Abrams and Jeraldine Castillo fronted the Dolphins with their combined 15 points.

Kaylani Lebria tallied 15 in the first two frames for MCS, but was held to a meager two points in the third quarter and the Lady Knights began to lose sight of MHS, which trotted further ahead, 62-26, after the third quarter.

The Lady Dolphins starters handed the keys over to their bench in the final period, as all but one player on their roster rang in at least one basket.

Abrams and Williams had 15 points apiece for MHS, which drew 14 markers from Castillo, while Lebria scrambled for 20 under duress.

FRIDAY Junior Varsity

SSHS 40 – Ongelungel 20, Rogoyawa 10, Atalig 6, Isaac 4.

KHS 20 – K. Lizama 8, Olaitiman 6, Dela Cruz 4, Wasisang 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-2, 18-12, 30-18, 40-20.

Varsity

KHS 68 – Ada 22, Halstead 16, Lizama 10, Pelep 10, J Santos 6, Palino 2, Mettao 2.

SSHS 56 – Duenas 28, V Bartolo 18, Ongelungel 9, Anqui 1.

Scoring by quarters: 19-23, 43-26, 49-41, 68-56.

WEDNESDAY

MHS 69 – Abrams 15, Williams 15, Jerald Castillo 14, Jeraly Castillo 6, Lizardo 5, Lumabi 4, K. Ada 2, Badilles 2, Gathalian 2, Guevarra 2, Olivos 2.

MCS 39 – Lebria 20, M. Kautz 11, R. Kautz 6, Taylor 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-10, 41-21, 62-28, 69-39.

IGITOL

From Page 28

"First and foremost, I would like to thank our heavenly Father for all His guidance. Thank you to our friends in the Pacific for their vote of confidence and to NMASA for the nomination. And of course, thank you to my family, for their support, and to the members of the CNMI baseball community. I dedicate this award to my parents, my father, Pablo, who inspired me to get involved in sports, especially in

RAPHAEL

From Page 28

formance in Games 1 and 2 (258 and 204) and remained steady in the last four games (199, 204, 189, and 234) for an impressive average of 214.17 pinfalls.

Zapanta missed the No. 3 spot by only two pinfalls, as the host's Jason Yam Khai Donq earned 1,290 pinfalls for an average of 215. Paranaque, Philippines' Jeremy Posadas ruled the men's singles event with his

GUALO RAI

From Page 28

Zach Babauta added an insurance charity, and Zack Diaz made a big defensive stop and rebound to lift Gualo Rai to the title win. In contrast, the favored San Antonio committed a costly error, Jack Aranda missed two free throws, and Melvin Cadiang muffed two important shots.

Estolas was called for three turnovers in the last two minutes of the game, but redeemed himself when he went 3-for-6 from the foul line with his last one giving Gualo Rai a shaky 78-76 lead. Before Estolas' last charity, Aranda faltered on his two free throw attempts, failing to put San Antonio back in the lead. San Antonio entered the final two minutes of the game with a 76-75 lead after Bryl Alegre converted an under-goal stab.

Two more free throw misses from Estolas kept San Antonio's hopes alive, as Gualo still held the precarious 2-point lead with

28.3 seconds left on the clock. However, after Palacios collared the rebound, he rushed a pass to Mike Saturno, who had his back turn on the ball as he was heading to their frontcourt and when the latter tried to recover the loose ball, he was late, as the leather rolled out to the sideline.

Gualo Rai regained possession, but lost it too when two San Antonio defenders forced Estolas to a traveling violation after receiving the inbound play. San Antonio then went to Cadiang, who drove to the baseline, but was challenged by the burly Diaz, and the former's shot rattled off the rim. Diaz also grabbed the rebound and San Antonio fouled Babauta to stop the clock.

Babauta missed the first charity, but made the second one to give Gualo Rai more cushion, 79-76, and San Antonio was left with 4.3 seconds to pull up for a game-tying triple. The clock then went down to 3.4 seconds after Diaz tapped out San Antonio's inbound pass and in the

regular season MVP honors.

JP Jose top-scored for Gualo Rai with 25 points, as his first half contributions helped the team keep pace with San Antonio. Jose was later named Finals MVP, while Nevin Salem took the regular season MVP honors.

First Game
KFC/Taco Bell 75 – R. Francisco 19, Fernando 15, Factor 9, Maranan 7, Tinio 6, M. Francisco 5, Lee 2.
Zhaila's All-Starz 66 – Brian 20, Ja. Bahillo 16, Hernandez 10, Tudela 6, Mostales 4.
Scoring by quarters: 21-14, 43-34, 62-50, 75-66.

Second Game

Gualo Rai/Pacific Star 79 – Jose 25, Estolas 24, Diaz 9, Lauron 9, Babauta 6, Galzote 2.
Brgy. San Antonio 76 – Ne. Salem 16, Aranda 13, Cadiang 12, De Guzman 8, Villanueva 8, Alegre 7, Palacios 4.
Scoring by quarters: 28-22, 42-43, 65-58, 79-76.

Weekend Sports

Mother Nature cooperated last week, allowing five leagues to resume their games.

In the DLX caging at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court, the playoff games resumed with Gualo Rai, KFC/Taco Bell, Zhaila's All-Starz, and Brgy. Sant Antonio ousting separate foes to complete the semis cast.

Gualo Rai and San Antonio went on to survive Zhaila's and KFC, respectively, in the close semis games to arrange their title showdown. Gualo Rai eventually took the championship last Friday after pulling off an upset over San Antonio in the

Good weather, good games

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

winner-take-all finals.

At the Oleai Sports Complex Field, the M-League returned to action after suspending its games for two weeks due to rain and featured the Division 2 pairing between Matansa and Shirley's FC. Matansa won, 3-0, to improve to a 2-0 record.

Also resuming at the Oleai pitch was the U15 division of the 2012 NMIFA Youth Fall League.

Over at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium, the junior varsity division of the 2012-2013 Coalition of Private School Sports Association Volleyball League was completed last Monday with Whispering Palms clinching the championship.

The finals of the junior varsity competition was extended for three more days after the first round of the playoffs was rained-

out and when the matches resumed, Whispering Palms went undefeated, slipping past SIS A in the semis and Saipan Community School in the finals to end its three-year title drought.

In the varsity division, Saipan International School Blue de-throned Grace Christian Academy, winning the three-set finale last Friday.

The Saipan Major League

Baseball Association/Division of Youth Services' 18U Triple A Championship Youth Baseball League was the fifth event to return to action last week with the Dodgers routing the Reds after only five innings at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield, 16-3.

In other competitions, the Emon Lodge caging completed its regular season games with

Pacific Islands Club topping the nine-team field with its 7-1 record. Mobil also held a 7-1 card, but lost in the tiebreak. The Top 2 teams advanced to the play-offs, joining Ashley's/Brabu, Hoopaholics, Hi-Five, Archers, Armatech, and Fong's Bakery.

Still in basketball, the varsity games in the MICO league continued with Saipan Southern High School and Marianas High School downing separate foes at the MHS Gymnasium.

Matches in the MISO boys varsity volleyball competition also took place at the MHS gym with SIS still perfect after beating GCA in the battle of undefeated teams.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO



**Red Sox to
hire John
Farrell as
manager**

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**LeBron
dismisses
Lakers
speculation**

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Igitol wins in Pacific Sports Awards



Rose Igitol, center, seen here posing with husband, Tony, left, and son, Ian, during the 2011 NMASA Awards Banquet early this year, won the Sports Administrator of the Year in the 4th Annual Pacific Sports Awards.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Northern Marianas Amateur Sports Association secretary general Rose Igitol was named Sports Administrator of the Year during the 4th Annual Pacific Sports Awards.

Raphael equals Saipan's best finish in Intercity



Raphael Zapanta, third from left, poses with other members of the Saipan delegation to the 26th Asian Intercity Bowling Championships in Penang, Malaysia.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The youngest bowler in Saipan's delegation turned out to be the best

finisher on the squad, as 18-year-old Raphael Zapanta finished fourth in the men's singles event in the 26th Asian Intercity Bowling Championships.

Zapanta collected 1,288 pinfalls in the six-game roll-off last

Saturday at the Premium Lanes Penang in Georgetown, Penang, Malaysia, to place fourth in the 68-player field. He started his campaign in the annual tournament with 200-plus pinfall per-

See RAPHAEL on Page 26

Gualo Rai/Pacific Star claims DLX crown

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Experience prevailed over youth in the finals of the 2012 DLX/Gualo Rai Invitational Basketball League, as Gualo Rai/Pacific Star outclassed Brgy. San Antonio, 79-76, last Friday night at

the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

The veteran crew of Gualo Rai showed poise in the homestretch, while the young guns of San Antonio were rattled, allowing the former to pull off an upset in the winner-take-all finale.

Jun Estolas made three free throws in the closing seconds, See GUALO RAI on Page 26



Gualo Rai/Pacific Star's Zach Babauta fishes for a foul against Brgy. San Antonio's JP Villanueva during the second quarter of their title game in the DLX caging last Friday at the Gualo Rai Basketball Court.

See IGITOL on Page 26

Lady Dolphins lead winners in MISO caging

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Marianas High School, Kagman High School, and Saipan Southern High all arose victorious over separate foes last week in the 2012-2013 Marianas Interscholastic Sports Organization Girls Basketball League.

Two-time varsity champions Lady Dolphins whipped the Lady Knights last Wednesday, 69-39, and the Lady Ayuyus stunned the Lady Mantas 68-56, in Friday's varsity tiff. Also last Friday, Southern doubled-up Kagman, 40-20, in the junior varsity pairing.

MHS's win was its third in as many games, while South-

See LADY on Page 26



WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
Marianas High School's Lahaina Gatchalian, left, takes an open shot from the post against Mount Carmel School during their varsity game in the MISO caging last Wednesday at the MHS Gymnasium.